

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LV.]

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No. 9

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BIRTH.

On the 17th February, at "Sydenham," Thompson Road, Singapore, the wife of F. C. WREFORD, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 13th February, by the Rev. W. Murray, at the Presbyterian Church, Singapore, Capt. R. S. BAINBRIDGE, of North Shields, England, to ELIZA, youngest daughter of J. WEARNE Fremantle, W. A.

On the 24th February, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Rev. R. F. Cobbold, M.A., EDWARD OWEN MURPHY, to AGNES LA PIERRE, of Victoria, B.C.

DEATHS.

On the 21st January, at Gwendoline, Corca, JUSTINE BARRY, daughter of E. T. and M. M. McARTHUR, aged 3 years and 2 months.

On the 2nd February, at Chefoo, ELIZABETH, relict of the late HENRY COOPER, of Shanghai, aged 59 years.

On the 15th February, at St. Peter's Rectory, 1, Avenue Road, Shanghai, CHARLOTTE, the wife of the Rev. WALTER CLAYTON CLAPP, of the American Church Mission in the Philippine Islands, aged 36 years.

On the 18th February, at Kashing, MARY ELIZABETH, infant daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. J. L. LITTLE, of the Southern Presbyterian Mission, aged three days.

On the 18th February, at "Sydenham," Singapore, ERIC LOVELL, infant son of LIZZIE MARY and FREDERICK CHARLES WREFORD.

On the 19th February, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, NORMAN EDWIN OSWELL PHILIP, CANNING, aged 33 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French and English mails of the 24th and 31st January respectively arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Oriental*, on the 28th February (35 and 28 days); and the American mail of the 30th January arrived, per T. K. K. steamer *Hongkong Maru*, on the 28th February (29 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The United States Senate has passed the Philippines Tariff.

Mr. Osbert Chadwick, the sanitary expert who will work in conjunction with Professor Simpson in Hongkong, arrived yesterday by the P. & O. steamer *Oriental*.

Lord Cranborne, on behalf of the Government, declined to be drawn into a statement regarding the steps that may be taken, or not taken, to give effect to the agreement concluded between Great Britain and Japan.

In order to give easier access to large vessels in Port Arthur the western side of the bay is being dredged, and a canal is to be constructed across the Tea Group peninsula to establish direct communication with Port Arthur.

The Canadian Royal Commission on Chinese and Japanese immigration has recommended an increase in the entry tax on Chinese from one hundred to five hundred dollars. The report in connection with Japanese immigration is not yet ready.

General O'Moore Creagh, in response to the universal protest against the injustice of omitting to add to the China Expedition medal any special clasp denoting the siege of Tientsin, has sent despatches to the home authorities, setting forth the facts of the case.

We are informed that as the result of the recent agitation the wages of first officers of steamers trading on this coast have been raised from £14 to £18 per month, and those of second officers from £8 to £13. It is stated that a similar movement is on foot amongst the engineers.

On the 12th ult. Mr. Hayashi, the Japanese Minister at Seoul, intimated to the Korean Foreign Office the conclusion of the Anglo-Japanese Agreement, and the matter was immediately laid before the Emperor. The Minister for Foreign Affairs expressed his great satisfaction at the event.

Prince Komatsu, who will represent the Japanese Emperor at the coronation of King Edward VII. will visit the courts of Spain, Germany, and Russia on his way home. He is expected to return to Japan about the middle of September next, by way of the Siberian Railway and Vladivostock.

Berlin telegrams state that, in the Reichstag, a motion was introduced to withdraw the German troops from Chihli as soon as possible. After a heated debate the motion was rejected. The Committee of the Reichstag has reduced the vote for the forces in China by 5½ million marks, and has rejected the vote of a million marks for warships in the Orient.

The King of Siam and suite arrived at Singapore on the 23rd ult., in the royal yacht *Maha Chakratri*, and landed to visit H.E. Sir F. A. Swettenham. He was received officially; a royal salute being fired on his landing. The guard of honour was provided by the 3rd Madras Light Infantry. The King's visit was one of farewell to his son, who left on the 24th ult. for Europe by the German mail steamer *Hamburg*.

Lord Cranborne says that Russia has stated her intention of restoring the Customs at Newchwang to the Imperial Chinese Administration as soon as circumstances permit, and that the British Government has no reason to question the good faith of this declaration.

The text has been published at Washington of a strong American Note sent to the Russian and Chinese Governments on the 1st instant. It declares that the grant to any corporation of exclusive mining, railroad, or other privileges in Manchuria will be a breach of treaties which America will view with the gravest concern. The Chinese and Russian Government have replied assuring the United States that "Manchuria will remain open to American trade."

News has arrived from Shanghai that on the 24th ult., two Portuguese were found dead of plague on the *Ballaarat* at Woosung, while many dead rats were discovered on board. The *Ballaarat*, which arrived in Hongkong on the 16th ult., and sailed for Shanghai the following day, has been sent to the Shanghai quarantine station for complete disinfection. Three suspicious cases of sickness have been taken to the station. Southern and Formosan ports have been declared suspect.

The Russian soldiers, according to the *Shanghai Times*, are constantly creating disturbances in Newchwang. They go to the native shops and private houses in a semi-drunken state, robbing and ravaging everywhere. Matters grew so bad that the Chinese got together and petitioned the Russian Consul-General in Newchwang about the grievance they have suffered so long. A proclamation was soon issued prohibiting any admission of the Russian soldiers to the houses occupied by the natives.

H. E. Senhor Conselheiro J. M. de S. Horta e Costa, Governor of Macao, goes on leave to Portugal on the 19th inst. and is expected back in August, when it is hoped that the Macao boundary question will have been settled. Should an agreement be arrived at with China, it will of course be considered advisable that the Governor in person should be present at the delimitation ceremonies. Senhor Horta e Costa goes home, we believe, on private business. A rumour has been current of his approaching retirement from the governorship of Macao, but this is not confirmed.

The *Universal Gazette*, discussing the Anglo-Japanese treaty and the joint protection of China and Corea, says:—Formerly Corea was our feudatory. She called herself one of little subject kingdoms. But now China and this despised Corea are put on one level. They must both be protected it seems. The disgrace of being mentioned in the same breath with Corea is more than we can bear. We cannot rejoice. We feel like "sleeping on brushwood and drinking gall." Let us plan for the wiping out of the disgrace. But if not we will be like the man who peacefully sleeps by the side of a burning stack of fuel, or him who sings a drunken ditty on a sinking ship. What folly to depend on the temporary help of outsiders, and forget the evils of our internal government! delightedly telling our friends, "Others will protect us, others will not harm us." As for ourselves we cannot but weep over the new treaty, so keenly do we feel the humiliation of it all.

WEIHAIWEI AS A COMMERCIAL PORT.

(Daily Press, 24th February.)

Though it is not likely that Weihaiwei will ever become a rival in commercial importance of Hongkong, there is no reason why it should not command a large and increasing trade. It has the advantage of being the only port in the Gulf of Pechili which is at all times accessible to steamers of the largest size, and in view of the enormous trade of Tientsin already established, and its prospective growth in the future, as well as the growing trade of Shantung, there seems to be ample room for the establishment of a great distributing trade. At present the entire foreign trade of the north of China practically passes through Shanghai, whence, after entering the mouth of the Yangtze, and being carried up to that city, it has to be transhipped into coasting steamers and carried at high freights and in small steamers to the ports of the Gulf of Pechili. Even with the present route through the Suez Canal, this is at best a costly course, and were the distributing port once established in the Gulf of Pechili itself cargoes could be carried equally economically to Weihaiwei, whence the expense of distributing them along the coasts of the Gulf could be effected under much more economical conditions. In fact, in such circumstances there is no reason to doubt that a special class of steamers adapted for the short distances and comparatively calm navigation of the Gulf would soon spring up. Shanghai at present re-exports to the three Gulf ports some ten million taels' worth of foreign goods taken there for the purpose; it also exports direct to Great Britain and the United States almost an equal amount of Chinese produce sent down for the purpose from the Gulf. It is impossible to say how much of this could be diverted to the shorter and cheaper route by Weihaiwei, but as commerce has always a tendency to seek the easiest channels it seems quite possible that in a short time a fair share might be brought to centre at Weihaiwei. In the not distant future a large portion of the direct European trade of China will come to pass through the Isthmian canal, either by way of Panama or Nicaragua, as may be decided. Here a port on the Gulf, accessible at all seasons, and affording good anchorage and shelter, as well as better facilities, would have still more important advantages. Weihaiwei with the opening of the Canal through the Isthmus of Panama would be actually nearer than Shanghai, while the voyage would be practically safer, and less exposed to dangers than the present route through the at all times objectionable Formosa Channel. Up to this the British Government has placed obstacles in the development of Weihaiwei as a mercantile port, in this following the example of Russia, rather than her own more usual policy of encouraging trade as a set-off against the necessary expenses of maintaining a strong defensive position. It does not appear an impossibility to make Weihaiwei an important military post, should such in the future be required, any more than it has been found impossible to carry on a considerable body of trade even in Gibraltar—a place essentially a fortress, and offering few openings for trade, import or export. Naturally Weihaiwei affords an admirable military position, both from its situation at the entrance of the Gulf of Pechili, and from the configuration of the land. Imperial interests would certainly

suffer to an enormous extent were we now to give up the port, which indeed we may rest assured would eventually be taken advantage of by some other Power more far-seeing than ourselves to dominate the entire North of China, politically as well as commercially. The evil would be all the greater that we have ourselves called attention by our occupation to the advantages of the site. In this respect Weihaiwei may be compared with Gibraltar. If there be no other Gibraltar in Europe, there is certainly no other Weihaiwei in Eastern Asia. Time was, and not very long ago, it is worth noting, when arguments such as we have heard about the inutility of Weihaiwei were current with regard to Gibraltar. If the world were carried on the principles of beneficence and charity, and had learnt the golden rule of not doing to others what it would not have done to itself, such argument might have some foundation in common sense. Unfortunately, as we ought to have learned from our recent experience in international concord, the principle underlying the policy of the most civilised nations is an undisguised selfishness, where truth and honourable dealing count for nothing. In such circumstances any action that would weaken our grasp on so advantageous a position as Weihaiwei would be an action amounting to little, if at all, less than treason. Fortunately we have the utility even from a merely commercial point of view, of the site to plead; and we have as little apprehension for the commercial future of Weihaiwei as we have of its military and political importance in the near future. The present obstructive system of China in commercial matters, and her objections to encouraging a coasting trade, are not likely to be long retained when she finds it to her advantage financially to permit this important trade to be carried on in steamers—whether under her own or foreign flags does not much matter—and for such a trade the Gulf of Pechili offers many openings in the number of small harbours only accessible with safety to small steamers. We may mention of these in Shantung alone, Tangchow, with its dependency Laichowfu, the centre of the straw-braid, silk, and other important trades, as well as Yang-chieko, the natural port of Tsinan. In Chihli, in addition to Tientsin, we have Chingwantao and Shanhaikwan, while several others of less present importance would really become so if trade were once opened. In fact, there are few spots in China presenting equal advantages as a port for direct foreign shipment as Weihaiwei, and we hope the Government will not permit its undoubted advantages to be obstructed by the usual pettifogging helplessness of the Chinese Government.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE AGREEMENT.

(Daily Press, 26th February.)

The new agreement between Great Britain and Japan continues to be the main subject of discussion in the latter country, and there are no signs of its popularity abating. From the last Japanese papers, however, which have reached us we see that there is a small but outspoken party which is not satisfied with the agreement as it stands. The spokesman is the leader of the Constitutional Association, Mr. Ozaki Yukio, who, the *Kobe Chronicle* says, is "one of the small band of Japanese publicists who hold pro-Russian views." He has expressed the opinion that for the peace of the Far East it is necessary that Russia shall be taken into the alliance, making it a triple one. The formation of the present bond

is satisfactory as a first step, but if nothing further is done there is no cause for congratulation. Those who share these views point out that Russia has recently been displaying a friendly disposition toward Japan, which should have been reciprocated by the latter. If the Anglo-Japanese agreement is directed especially against Russia, then it is not advantageous to Japan, as driving Russia into an attitude of direct hostility to her.

As we have said, this view of the agreement is only held by a small party in Japan, but because of the suggestion that the peace of the Far East would be better guaranteed by the formation of a triple alliance including Great Britain, Russia, and Japan, it is at least interesting. It is not difficult, of course, to discover the flaws in the proposal. In the first place there is the question of the possibility of such a league. Russia is working in Asia with very different objects from those of Britain and of Japan as set forth in the agreement. Unless Russia alters her policy and makes her actions conform to the professions of the S. Petersburg government, it is incredible that a common basis can be found between her and the two allies. It was easy for Japan and Britain to discover in the all-important commercial interests of both in China a ground on which to stand shoulder to shoulder. But Russia has no such commercial interests, and she has a very marked appetite for land, which menaces the interests of the other two and in fact the remainder of the Powers who have any trade in North China. It is only upon the supposition that the Tsar's Ministers will cease from their policy of publicly declaring their country's disinterestedness while all the time secretly encouraging Russian generals and agents to push on along the path of aggression, that such an alliance as that suggested could be possible. We have no indication that Russia intends to discontinue her old policy and work openly and honestly for the maintenance of peace. We have had protestation after protestation from S. Petersburg of the unselfishness of Russian aims; but in no case has there been any corresponding action. This fact in itself cuts at the root of an alliance between the three Powers, and renders it practically useless to discuss the subject. The agreement as it now stands must have the result of inspiring respect and should be sufficient to warn off trespassers on the territory of China and Corea. Its effect on Russian diplomatists and generals should be quieting, and it cannot but do far more for the peace of the East than any weak courtship of Russia's favour. No doubt, as has been urged, Russia has evinced, to outward seeming, a desire for Japan's friendship, but these amenities do not always mean much. She is more likely now to wish to remain on good terms with Japan strengthened by the support of Great Britain.

The *Foochow Echo* of the 15th ult. says:—The fire seen to be raging about half way between Nantai and the City on Sunday night last was at Dr. Kiuneer's house at Ponasang. It broke out about 11 o'clock and completely destroyed the building and its contents. The alarm of the family may be imagined with such a catastrophe happening at such an hour. Fortunately no lives were lost. The hospital, near adjoining, escaped, but this was looted, the soldiery sent to protect the property being powerless against the mob of thieves. It is understood that the property was partially insured.—The weather during the Chinese New Year holidays has been exceptionally fine. But for all the fine weather there has been, and is, a good deal of sickness about, what with bad colds, influenza, and fever, both among foreigners and natives.

THE ADEQUACY OF THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT STAFF.

(Daily Press, 28th February.)

There was laid before the Legislative Council yesterday afternoon the report of the committee of enquiry into the adequacy of the staff of the Medical Department here. It will be news to most residents in the Colony that some time during last autumn (for the date is not specified) H. E. the Governor appointed such a committee of enquiry, consisting of the following gentlemen:—Deputy Inspector General DREW, R.N., Colonel HUGHES, D.S.O., R.A.M.C., Dr. F. O. STEDMAN, M.D., B.S. (London), Messrs. C. S. SHARP and R. L. RICHARDSON. The first meeting of this committee was held on the 4th November last and the report now before it is dated the 31st December. Four meetings in all were held and the evidence was taken of Drs. J. M. ATKINSON, J. BELL, F. W. CLARK, J. H. SWAN, and R. M. GIBSON. In the commission to the five gentlemen appointed to conduct the enquiry, the Government laid it down that special reference was to be made to (1) the numerical strength of the staff of the Medical Department; (2) the position and duties of the Principal Civil Medical Officer. Working on these lines, the committee proceeded to take the second question first—on the ground that it is essential to determine the position of the Principal Civil Medical Officer before dealing with his staff—and in the report the answer to this question comes first. The verdict at which the committee arrived was this:—"We are of opinion that 'the Medical and Sanitary Departments should be wholly separate and that the 'Medical Officer of Health should be independent of the Principal Civil Medical Officer. The Medical Department should 'be under the jurisdiction of the Principal 'Civil Medical Officer who, however, should 'not be an administrative officer only, but 'should retain his present position as 'Superintendent of the Government Civil 'Hospital. The Sanitary Department 'should be under the administration of the 'Medical Officer of Health, subject to 'the control of the Sanitary Board." In connection with this answer of the committee the evidence of Dr. J. M. ATKINSON, the Principal Civil Medical Officer, given on the 6th November, should be read. In reply to the question whether he had at present control of the Sanitary Department, Dr. ATKINSON stated that his control over the Medical Officer of Health was only through his being an Executive Officer of the Sanitary Board, and he admitted that the Sanitary was quite different from the Medical Department; Dr. CLARK had been called upon occasionally to assist in the Medical Department (to which he had been appointed as Assistant Surgeon), but only when there had been great stress of work. As to the possibility of confusion, should the Medical Officer of Health for the Town be under the Principal Civil Medical Officer, Mr. SHARP asked: "Supposing 'there was a case in which the Sanitary 'Board carried a resolution, with which 'you as President of the Board disagreed; 'if the Medical Officer of Health were under the Principal Civil Medical Officer 'you might afterwards as Principal Civil 'Medical Officer override the resolution by 'ordering the Medical Officer of Health to 'carry out the particular matter concerned 'in the resolution as you considered right?" Dr. ATKINSON replied that as President of the Sanitary Board he would not do this—a statement which no one doubts. It must be remembered, however, that not all

temporary Presidents of the Sanitary Board inspire so much confidence as Dr. ATKINSON. It is not surprising, therefore, that the Committee should insist on the advisability of separating the departments in future. Dr. CLARK as Assistant Surgeon in the Medical Department is under the Principal Civil Medical Officer, but as having been seconded to the Sanitary Board for special work and in the position of Medical Officer of Health for the Town, he is not in this position. Such an anomaly should be guarded against in the future. The possibility of friction may not be eliminated by the separation of departments, but the hitherto existing state of confusion is one which should not be perpetuated.

As we print in another column the full answer of the committee as to the numerical strength of the staff of the Medical Department, we need not refer to it at length. It will be seen that in the Committee's opinion, seven Medical Officers are required, namely, one Principal Civil Medical Officer, four Assistant Surgeons, and two Health Officers for the Port. This is in accordance with the suggestions contained in Dr. ATKINSON's evidence, and we may take it that this is the irreducible minimum in the opinion of the soundest authorities in the Colony. One of the seven is expected always to be on leave, so that the dangers of overwork are reduced. This, it may be noted, is the normal state of affairs at present, when the Department is understaffed, so that there is no innovation proposed. The division of duties between the Officers during epidemic and non-epidemic times is based on the evidence given before the committee of enquiry and will recommend itself to those who have studied the question. The recommendations of this rather mysteriously appointed committee are marked by care and attention to details and we trust that no time will be lost in giving effect to them.

THE UNITED STATES AND MANCHURIA.

(Daily Press, 27th February.)

The assurance of the Russian and Chinese Governments in reply to the note sent on the 1st instant by United States, which REUTER's telegram of the 24th instant announces, would be more valuable were its terms more clearly worded. It has been stated by Russia's central authorities that she intends to evacuate this outlying province of the Chinese Empire. China is pressing for evacuation as speedily as possible. Yet the Washington Government is now merely told that the province "will remain open to American trade." If Manchuria is to continue to be part of China, the Russian assurance is supererogatory, and that of China itself is not needed, as commercial negotiations are now proceeding between China and the Powers which will define the trade relations of the Empire with foreigners in future. At the present moment, therefore, no such declaration as that now published is called for. It should be amply evident that Manchuria, like the rest of the Chinese Emperor's dominions, will remain open to American as to other traders. What the States protested against was the attempt to give Russia exclusive mining, railway, and other privileges. The wording of the assurance, in fact, if the telegraphic summary is correct, is calculated to arouse suspicion. It is difficult to believe that it will be accepted by the United States as a guarantee of their interests in the Far North of China. Had the Manchurian Convention, in one of its very numerous forms, been signed by China,

then such an assurance might be tolerated in default of a more equitable arrangement. As matters now stand, it either is nugatory or reveals a presumption on the part of China and Russia that they need consult no nation else as to the disposition of Manchuria. This is far from being the case, it is hardly necessary to say, and the joint assurances therefore may be regarded as worth no more than the paper on which they are written. It is evident that the Manchurian question is still as far from solution as ever.

VICTORIA GAOL IN 1901.

(Daily Press, 25th February.)

It can hardly be termed a satisfactory report on Victoria Gaol in 1901 that appears in the *Government Gazette* over the name of Mr. F. J. BADELEY, Acting Superintendent in the absence of Mr. F. H. MAY. In the first place, the daily average number of prisoners confined in the Gaol during the year was 499 as compared with the 486 of 1900. On the 31st December last there were 180 convicts in the Gaol, as against 141 on the corresponding day of 1900, 96 in 1899, and 55 in 1898, showing an increase of 227 per cent. (not, as Mr. BADELEY says, an increase of 125 per cent.) during the past three years. Owing no doubt to the number of soldiers and sailors serving in North China, the military and naval prisoners sentenced by Courts-Martial and admitted to Victoria Gaol showed an increase of 55 per cent. on the previous year and an increase of 93 per cent. on 1899. On the other hand, the total number admitted to the Gaol in 1901 were 5,077, of whom 679 were old offenders; whereas in the previous year 5,432 were admitted, including 702 old offenders. A very large increase is observable in the convictions from the New Territory. Mr. MAY in his report for 1900 gave the number as 125; last year there were 334. The number of prisoners whose offences were not of a criminal nature rose from 2,267 to 2,345. The deaths in gaol and executions increased from 6 and 2 to 13 (4 suicides) and 3 respectively. Punishments for breaches of prison discipline mounted from 2,344 in 1900 to 2,411 in 1901, and corporal punishments increased from 7 cases to 14. The sanitary condition of the Gaol continues to be good, and industrial labour on the part of the prisoners shows a notable improvement, the total profit in 1901 amounting to \$24,783.47, against \$17,458.34 in the preceding year. With regard to the prison building itself, the new wing, mentioned in the 1900 report, was completed and occupied by long-sentenced prisoners early in 1901. The old Warders' quarters, which should have been converted into a hospital for prisoners, are not yet available, as the new quarters for the staff are still in the contractor's hands.

The worst feature of the report is to be found near the end. It will be remembered that in his report for 1900 Mr. MAY stated that the gaol accommodation was already insufficient and that on many occasions, by no means of emergency, 598 prisoners were confined at one and the same time, the total capacity of the building being properly 570. Now again Mr. BADELEY writes: "Owing 'to the excessive number of prisoners confined in the Gaol during the year, it was 'frequently necessary to locate three prisoners together in small cells constructed 'for the accommodation of one only; the 'capacity of each cell being 760 cubic feet. 'The overcrowded state of the Gaol is 'somewhat serious, particularly in the hot 'weather when sickness is prevalent." Mr.

BADELEY certainly does not understate the case when he calls it "somewhat serious," and we are constrained to wonder that the sanitary condition can still be described as good. Mr. BADELEY states that the building of a larger prison is receiving the attention of the Government (as urged by Mr. MAY in the 1900 report); we trust for the credit of the Colony that this attention may result in something definite, for it looks exceedingly ill to read in two successive years' reports so grave an indictment of our prison accommodation.

A SUGGESTION FOR THE PEAK TRAMWAYS CO.

(Daily Press, 27th February.)

The letter signed "Peakite," which appears in another column to-day, deserves attention, and we hope that the Hongkong High-Level Tramways Company will recognise the justice of the complaint contained therein. The present lack of rain in the Colony will not assuredly continue for long, and the question which our correspondent brings forward will become urgent when the summer rains commence. In the early days of the Tramways Company, when it was struggling hard to make its way, the absence of a proper shelter for passengers at the upper terminus of the line was cheerfully borne, though the inconvenience and discomfort were no less marked than they are now. For a whole decade not a murmur has come from the public at this undoubted grievance. In return for this, the Company, now that it is in a flourishing state, certainly owes a debt to the travellers to and from the Peak which can best be paid by an attempt to study their comfort to every reasonable extent. We cannot believe that the General Managers will disregard the appeal of "Peakite." In fact it would be churlish and ungallant to the Peak ladies, who make so large an use of the Tramway to continue unnecessarily to subject them to the caprices of the weather. Our correspondent says: "The question of cost need not be considered." As a matter of fact, the cost of a sufficient shelter would be very little and could not affect the Company's finances to an appreciable degree.

THE CRISIS: TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

SHANGHAI, 23rd February, 8.28 p.m.

A special audience was held at the Imperial Palace to-day by the Emperor and Empress Dowager. Sir Robert Hart had the first twenty minutes' interview, which was spent in respectful converse. The Empress Dowager declared that her purpose was to execute the necessary reforms.

Afterwards, to Bishops Favier and Jarlin, the Empress Dowager expressed her regret for the attack on the Peitang. She stated that she wants to regard Christian converts and others alike as her people, in perpetual harmony.

During the stay of H.M.S. *Bramble* at Bangkok, a distressing fatality to a British sailor occurred in the British Legation grounds. Some of the men of H.M.S. *Bramble* had volunteered to repaint the Legation flagstaff, and George Thomas, an A.B., went aloft early on the 7th inst. for the purpose of reeving the necessary tackle. He had reached the top when he seems to have felt weak after the long climb. At all events he started to come down the wire slays when all at once he let go and fell to the ground, death being instantaneous. The deceased was very popular, and was only 19½ years of age.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 27th ult. in the Council Chamber. Present:—

His EXCELLENCY the ACTING GOVERNOR, Major-General Sir W. GASCOIGNE, K.C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. W. MEIGH GOODMAN, K.C. (Attorney-General).

Hon. Commander R. M. RUMSEY, R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. C. McI. MESSER (Acting Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hon. J. THURBURN.

Hon. J. J. BELL-IRVING.

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

THE SANITARY EXPERT.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Before proceeding to the orders of the day, it may interest hon. members of this Council to know that Mr. Chadwick left Marseilles on the 31st of last month and is due to arrive here on the 2nd of next month.

PAPERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table papers referring to the provision of a school for European children and an English school for Chinese of the upper classes; the reports of the Victoria Gaol and the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund; the returns of the Supreme Court; the report of the Commission on the staffing of the Medical Department; and correspondence relative to the immunity from plague of Chinese in Cape Colony.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minutes (Nos. 1 to 6) and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the Report of the Finance Committee (No. 1), and moved its adoption.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

OUTBREAKS OF PLAGUE.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Sir, I rise to ask the first question which stands in my name.

The question was as follows:—Will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary inform the Council whether the Government will consider the expediency of amending the Bye-laws annexed to the Public Health Ordinance, No. 13 of 1901, so as to empower the Sanitary Board to take such steps as may be requisite in connection with the periodical outbreak of plague without the necessity of formally declaring any district in the Colony as an area infected with plague?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—In reply to the question asked by the hon. member, I have the honour to state that the matter referred to in the question was referred to the Sanitary Board. The Sanitary Board has considered the matter, and as a result bye-laws made by that Board will be brought before the Council to-day for its approval. It is only fair, sir, that I should state that it was really owing to the question asked by the hon. member that this matter was taken into consideration.

WATER-STORAGE CAPACITY.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Sir, I rise to ask the second question which stands in my name.

The question was as follows:—Will the Honourable the Director of Public Works lay upon the table a statement showing what works, if any, have actually been completed during the years 1899, 1900, and 1901 for increasing the water-storing capacity in the City of Victoria and Kowloon, and how the present water-storage capacity can be augmented and rendered adequate to meet the growing requirements of the Colony in all seasons?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—I beg to lay on the table the statement which has been asked for.

The statement was as follows:—With regard to the City of Victoria, a reservoir and catchwater at Wongneichong Gap were completed in April, 1899. The maximum capacity of the reservoir is 33,94,000 gallons. No other works for adding to the storage for the City supply have been completed in the years mentioned. One additional storage reservoir at Tytam has been begun and preparations are being made to commence another. The combined capacity of these two will be about 100,000,000 gallons. With regard to Kowloon, no storage in the ordinary sense of the term has hitherto existed, the works originally constructed consisting of dams across the outlets from three valleys of considerable area to prevent the escape of water underground, provision being also made for conveying the water thus intercepted into wells, from which it flows through pipes to the pumping station. One of the dams was practically reconstructed and was also raised five feet, the work being completed early in 1899. A main was laid and small dams were constructed cross several stream-courses at Cheung Sha Wan in the New Territory, the work being completed in 1900, to render the water of the streams available for waterworks purposes. No storage-reservoir was constructed, as there was no suitable site for one. In 1901, several improvements and modifications were made in the Cheung Shan Wan intake and main in order to supply the whole districts of Mongkoktsui and Yau-mati from this source, thus leaving the supply obtained from the original works available for the remainder of the Peninsula. This arrangement has worked satisfactorily. The second part of the question is in a form which does not admit of being answered exactly. The scheme for increasing the supply for the City obtainable by gravitation from Pokfulam and Tytam, towards the carrying out of which the steps mentioned above are being taken, as described in Mr. Cooper's report, is estimated to yield 4,000,000 gallons per day, or sufficient for a population of 266,000 people. The present population is estimated at 213,000. The new scheme for Kowloon, for the carrying out of which tenders are now being invited, is estimated to yield 1,575,000 gallons per day, or sufficient for a population of 157,000 people. The population of the districts to be supplied, as ascertained from the census of 1901, amounts to 66,244.

PREVENTION OF EPIDEMICS.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS made the following motion under section 14 of Ordinance No. 13 of 1901:—"That this Council approves of the Bye-laws for the Prevention or Mitigation of Epidemic, Endemic, or Contagious Disease, made by the Sanitary Board on the 18th February, 1902." He said—It will be within the recollection of hon. members that in September last certain bye laws were passed which enabled the Board to take action with a view to the prevention of any epidemic, endemic, or contagious disease. It has been found, however, that the powers under the bye-laws are somewhat limited and that under them the Board has no power to close any house or to remove cocklofts or ceilings or other structures of that nature in order to admit of the cleansing and disinfecting being done in an absolutely thorough manner. Any sporadic cases of plague occurring, it was necessary that the Board should declare that place to be infected before it could take these measures; and the powers given now, sir, are simply those which existed before, only they were divided into two sets of bye-laws—one for the prevention of epidemic, endemic, or contagious diseases, and the other dealing with the powers which should be taken when an epidemic existed. It has been considered desirable, in order to obviate this declaration of a place as being infected in consequence of only one or two sporadic cases occurring, that these bye-laws should be combined; and the heading of them has been altered to read "Prevention or Mitigation of Epidemic, Endemic, or Contagious Disease." That is the heading, I may mention, sir, that occurs in sub-section 33, section 3, of the Public Health Ordinance. Under that section the Board is given powers to make bye-laws for the prevention or mitigation of those diseases. I therefore move, sir, that the Council approve of those bye-laws.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I have much pleasure in seconding. I have gone through the bye-laws very carefully with Dr. Clark, and it seems to us that they are quite unexceptionable and should be passed.

The motion was agreed to.

DRAINAGE BYE LAWS.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS made the following motion under section 14 of Ordinance No. 13 of 1901:—"That this Council approves of the Bye-laws for the repeal of Nos. 29 and 30 of the Drainage Bye-laws contained in Schedule B of Ordinance No. 13 of 1901, and the substitution of amended Bye-law No. 30 under Section 13 thereof." He said—This matter, sir, is brought forward simply with the view of removing some anomalies which existed in the previous bye-laws. It was laid down in these bye-laws that under certain conditions rainwater must be conveyed in cast-iron pipes, for example, while waste-water could be conveyed in earthenware pipes; and there were numerous other discrepancies which required correction. Before the bye-law was put in its present form it was submitted to the various engineering and architectural firms in the Colony, and has received their approval. I therefore beg to move that it be approved.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was adopted.

RATING OF QUARRIES.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Before, sir, I move the other motions I have placed on the orders of the day, I would ask your permission under the claim of urgency to move a resolution under Section 31 of the Rating Ordinance No. 8 of 1901. I move that under No. 13 H of the standing orders, which says that any motion the urgency of which is admitted by the President and two-thirds of the members may be made without notice having been given. Perhaps it may be decided whether I should proceed. There being no objections,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said—I will very briefly explain this matter. The motion is this, that "whereas certain quarries are now held under Crown leases at fixed rents, and it is expedient that the said tenements should be rated in a uniform basis, it is hereby resolved by this Council that the percentage in valuation of such quarries respectively, payable as rates, should be fixed at seven per cent. irrespective of the locality of such quarries." Originally there were various forms of licences. At the present time all these quarries are held by different tenure, by leases, and they are rated. The question then arises as to how they should be rated. The Assessor of Rates came to see me the other day, feeling himself to be in a difficulty about the matter. Some of them are now paying 7 per cent. and he felt a difficulty, having regard to section 29 of the Rating Ordinance, which says that in certain places rates shall be so placed—in the City of Victoria 13 per cent., in Yau-mati so much, 12½ per cent., for instance—and other places generally 7 per cent. Some of those quarries are paying 7 per cent. and if we do not pass this resolution it seems to me that it will be objected that those paying 10 or 12 per cent. do not get any more protection or advantages than the others, and this would naturally raise a good deal of feeling. Those paying the higher percentage would say that they did not get any special police protection or special lighting and that it was rather hard to have to pay more than the others. It was therefore recommended by the Treasurer, and at all events by the Assessor of Rates, that there should be a uniform rating of quarries of 7 per cent. That is the minimum rate, and it seems to me a very fair thing. The only reason why the matter has not been mentioned before is that I only saw the Assessor a few days ago and had not time to give notice of motion. The power is given to this Council to alter from time to time the rates provided for by sections 29 and 30. Some of these quarries have not yet been assessed at all this year and will be assessed this year for the first time. Therefore I beg to make this motion which I have just read.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

NEW TERRITORIES REGULATION.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL made the following motion as to Ordinance No. 12 of 1899:—"Whereas, by section 6 of the New Territories

Regulation Ordinance (No. 12 of 1899), it was enacted that the said Ordinance should remain in force for the period of one year from the date of its coming into operation, and for such further period or periods as might, from time to time, be determined by resolution of the Legislative Council: And whereas, by previous resolutions of the said Legislative Council it was resolved that the said Ordinance should be continued in force until the 18th day of April, 1902: It is hereby resolved by this Council that the New Territories Regulation Ordinance, 1899, shall be again continued in force for the further period of two years from the 18th day of April, 1902 (inclusive)." He said—I may say it is obvious that it has not been ascertained by the Land Court precisely who are the holders of the different claims of land in the New Territory, and until the various claims are settled it will be practically impossible for the Government to make any great headway in the collection of rents. It is very satisfactory to hear from Mr. Gompertz that the Land Court is making very considerable progress in the work now, and I trust that in the course of a couple of years they will be able to get Crown rent regularly, and to get arrears—rents which were outstanding—or some of them at all events. I may say that some of the persons who are defaulters in this matter are persons living out of the jurisdiction of the Colony. They claim to have a sort of charge which they collect from the actual occupiers of and workers upon the land, and these persons being outside the jurisdiction of the Colony, residing in China, it is quite impossible to take any proceedings against them and make them pay rent. But when they come to have their claims established by the Land Court then we can make them pay back rent; and these claims will be overtaken as district by district is settled. In the meantime it is necessary that we should have a somewhat exceptionally free hand and be able to continue the system which is prevailing at the present time. I hope before two years are up that we shall be able to pass a proper Ordinance which shall settle all those matters.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

LATRINE AT HUNGHOM.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL made the following motion under section 64 of Ordinance No. 13 of 1901:—"Whereas application has been duly made by the Sanitary Board to the Governor under section 61 of the Public Health Ordinance, 1902, for the erection of a public latrine at the North-West end of the Crown Lot to the South of Hunghom Inland Lot No. 233: And whereas, such application having been approved by the Governor, and a notification of the intention to erect a public latrine upon such site having been duly published in three successive numbers of the *Gazette*, certain owners of property in the immediate vicinity of such site have objected to such erection: And whereas the objections so made have been considered by this Council: It is hereby resolved by this Council that the above-mentioned site and the erection thereon of a public latrine be approved." In moving the resolution the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said—Last year a petition, signed by a large number of the inhabitants of this Colony, and dated 25th June, 1901, was presented, to be forwarded to the Rt. Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, asking for the appointment of a commission to investigate and report on the sanitary condition of Hongkong. That petition in pars. 19 and 20 pointed out the need of, amongst other things, more latrines. It quoted a speech of the Medical Officer of Health at a Sanitary Board meeting last year where he referred to a letter of the Acting Colonial Secretary written in 1900, who wrote—"It is easy to recommend the erection of urinals and latrines but not easy to find sites for them"; and it also mentioned instances in which the Government had failed to carry out the recommendations of the Board with regard to the erection of public latrines. When, however, the Government takes energetic action to meet the wishes of the community by endeavouring to carry out the recommendations of the Sanitary Board with regard to latrines, it is at once opposed by the landowners in the vicinity, and this in spite of the fact that this public latrine is proposed to be put up for the benefit of the inhabitants in its neighbourhood

and to be erected on Crown Land. This question is not a new one. Everyone knows that latrines are not specially pleasant things to talk about, or to see, nor are they agreeable to one's sense of smell; but in the peculiar conditions of Hongkong they are absolute necessities. It was for this reason that special legislation was required and as the law stands this Council has been made the umpire between the public and the lot-holders as to whether a latrine recommended by the Sanitary Board is to be erected or not, if objections to such erection are sent in writing to the Colonial Secretary within a certain time after the publication in three successive numbers of the *Gazette* in English and Chinese of a notification specifying the site and announcing the intention of the Government to erect a public latrine thereon. In the present case the facts are shortly these. One knows that Hunghom has a large number of inhabited houses with more in process of erection. The need there for latrine accommodation is urgent. Accordingly, on 9th August, 1901, the Sanitary Board recommended to the Colonial Secretary that one should be erected on the west side of Gillies Avenue on an available plot of Crown Land. The Land Investment Company objected to this site in a letter dated the 24th September, 1901, on two grounds—(a) that it would depreciate the value of a lot they had recently purchased; (b) that Gillies Avenue is the principal landing place of Hunghom and that the latrine would be a nuisance to the public landing there. The Sanitary Board endeavoured to meet the objections and recommended, on 7th November, 1901, that the site be shifted to the north-west extremity of the Crown Lot. To this, however, the Land Company again objected, although the Colonial Secretary in his letter of 7th November, 1901, stated as follows:—"I am to point out, however, that the necessity for the erection of public latrines is occasioned by the fact that the owners of property do not provide latrines in their houses," and pointed out that if the owners would provide latrine accommodation in the houses the erection of the public latrine might not be found necessary. Well, in reply, the Company said they could not agree that it was desirable to put latrines in this class of houses. They suggested another site north of Hunghom Inland Lot 228. The objection, however, to this was that it would be 200 to 300 yards distant from a considerable aggregation of houses which the latrine was intended to serve. The Sanitary Board considered the suggestion and decided to still recommend the site before mentioned. The Governor in Executive Council then went carefully into the matter, and on 10th January it was resolved by the Governor in Council that this resolution under Section 64 of the Public Health Ordinance should be moved in this Council. I trust that the resolution will be carried unanimously. In such matters the tenants and the public should be considered as well as the lot-holders.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

REGULATIONS REGARDING RATS.

A Bill entitled "An Ordinance to authorise the making of Regulations with regard to rats" was down on the orders of the day for first reading.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL having moved that it be read a first time, said—As this is a somewhat urgent thing, I beg to move that the standing orders be suspended so that this Bill may be read a second and third time and passed.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

In moving its second reading the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said—I do not think it is necessary to say anything about this measure except to state the objects and reasons. The object of this Ordinance is to enable such regulations to be made as may be deemed expedient to provide against the spread of plague-infection by rats. A seaport such as Hongkong is specially liable to this danger, having regard to the large number of vessels which enter the harbour and discharge cargo.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, in seconding the motion, said—I think it is most desirable, sir, that this Ordinance be passed to-day, especially as medical opinion all seems to be unanimous regarding the desirability of exterminating the rats to prevent the spread of plague.

The motion was carried.

The Council afterwards went into Committee on the Bill.

On resuming,

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved that it be read a third time and passed.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

FIRST READINGS.

The following Bills were submitted by the ATTORNEY-GENERAL and read a first time:—An Ordinance to provide for the more effectual control of chair and jinricksha coolies in private employ; an Ordinance to define the meaning of the word "writers," as used in Ordinance No. 3 of 1871; an Ordinance to amend The New Territories Land Court Ordinance, 1900 (No. 18 of 1900), and The New Territories Land Court Amendment Ordinance 1901 (No. 27 of 1901); an Ordinance to amend the Ordinance to provide for the registration of deeds, wills, judgments, and conveyances affecting real or immovable property in Hongkong (No. 3 of 1844); an Ordinance to further amend The Bankruptcy Ordinance, 1891; an Ordinance to further amend The Supreme Court Summary Jurisdiction Ordinance, 1873.

This was all the public business.

REVISION OF JURY LIST.

The Council afterwards sat in private for revision of the Jury List.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately afterwards, the Colonial Secretary (Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart) presiding.

HOUSES AT VICTORIA GAOL.

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$560 to cover the cost of four months' rent of the house occupied by the Europeans of the Victoria Gaol, together with the house allowance for one married Principal Warder.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, the motion was agreed to.

PUBLIC WORKS EXPENDITURE.

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to re-vote the following sums, being unexpended balances of the votes for 1901 under the heading "Public Works Extraordinary":—

1. Governor's Peak residence ...	\$17,432.20
2. No. 7 Police Station ...	1,197.80
3. New sheep and swine depôts ...	11,000.00
4. Four public latrines ...	5,787.51
5. Public urinals ...	5,000.00
6. Completion of gaol officers' quarters ...	24,938.11
7. Police Station at Tsun Wan (altered to Tai O) ...	7,922.00
8. Taipo Road ...	10,351.14
9. Storm-water nullah, Mongkoktsui ...	8,450.00
10. District watchmen' quarters (Government share) ...	1,007.00
11. Police Station at Fu Ti An (altered to Sheung Shui) ...	1,261.56
12. Home for quarantined dogs ...	1,432.23
13. Perch on rock near Lyemoon ...	175.55
14. Coal-store, Starling Inlet Police Station ...	170.00
15. Public bath-house ...	4,000.00
16. Training and diverting nullah near Tram Station ...	2,099.85
17. Improvements in lighting approaches to harbour ...	6,000.00
18. Erection of derrick on new site, Gap Rock ...	7,120.00
19. Two temporary markets ...	12,000.00
20. Extension of Waichai market ...	3,000.00
21. Railing in openings round animal depôts, Kennedy Town ...	4,100.00
22. Cattle-crematorium ...	2,020.00
23. Repairs and alterations to Government pavilions ...	1,500.00
Total...	\$137,957.95

The CHAIRMAN—These sums have been already voted by the Council, so that it is not necessary for me to give any explanations today. It practically amounts to a re-vote. The money was not spent last year, and in order to spend it this year it is necessary to recommend that this vote be recommended by the Council.

The recommendation was approved.

CATTLE-CREMATORIUM AND REFUSE-DESTRUCTOR.

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to vote a sum of

\$4,980 to meet the cost to be incurred on account of the construction of a cattle crematorium and a refuse-destructor—

Cattle-crematorium—estimated cost ... \$5,000.00
Deduct sum already voted 2,020.00

Additional sum required ... \$2,980.00
Refuse-destructor—estimated cost... 2,000.00

Total additional sum required ... \$4,980.00

The CHAIRMAN—Hon. members have heard frequent discussions about the desirability of having a crematorium for cattle and also a refuse-destructor, and therefore it is unnecessary for me to enter into that. This is an additional sum. The sum already voted is exhausted and an additional sum is therefore required.

The recommendation was approved.

CAPSUMUN CUSTOMS STATION.

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$4,215.58 to cover the cost of repairs carried out at the building formerly known as Capsu-mun Customs Station.

The CHAIRMAN—Hon. members are aware that when we leased this New Territory there were many buildings, especially near the Colony. One of these buildings is at the Capsu-mun Station, and it was thought inadvisable to allow this building to go to ruin, so the Government gave instructions that it should be put into a state of repair. That has been done and the cost is the sum which I now propose be recommended.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—What is it being used for?

The CHAIRMAN—It is not being used for any purpose, but it is not unlikely that it will be used for some purpose. In any case, the hon. member will agree with me, after his experience of property in the Colony, that it is an unwise thing to allow a house to go into a state of decay. If that is allowed, the cost of renewing it would be much greater than \$4,000. This will be a very valuable property, and suggestions have been made, which are not yet ripe, with regard to it. It is quite possible it will be put to some use. I am not in a position to indicate what that use is, but you may be sure that the Government is not incurring this expenditure without having something in view in connection with it.

The recommendation was approved.

EPIDEMIC HULK "HYGEIA."

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to re-vote the sum of \$1,244.60 in aid of the vote of \$1,000 for "Repairs to Epidemic Hulk Hygeia."

The CHAIRMAN—The Principal Civil Medical Officer pointed out that certain repairs were required on this hulk. Full details of these will be given by the Harbour Master if hon. members think it necessary. These repairs are to be carried out in order to increase her efficiency.

The recommendation was approved.

HONORARIUM TO INSPECTOR REIDIE.

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$450, being a special honorarium to Inspector J. Reidie of the Sanitary Department for his plague services.

The CHAIRMAN—Inspector Reidie discharged excellent services in connection with the plague, and the Sanitary Board unanimously recommended that these services should be recognised by a grant of \$450. I feel sure that this Committee will agree with that recommendation of the Sanitary Board by recommending the Council to vote this sum.

The recommendation was approved.

This was all the business.

We take the following from the P. & T. Times:—The seatholders of the Cathedral in Hongkong have carried a resolution deploring the action of the Church Body in appointing a senior chaplain without consulting the wishes of the subscribers. The resolution is reputed to be not a condemnation of the appointment of the Rev. F. T. Johnson, but a protest against the mode of his election. Still the debate, which was very able and interesting, says so much about competency, good preaching, and musical ability, that the outside reader has not much trouble in seeing where the shoe pinches.

THE CANTON CUSTOMS.

From two sources on the 22nd inst. we received information to the effect that the long expected transfer to the Imperial Maritime Customs of the Canton Customs, which had been so strenuously resisted by the Hoppo, had actually taken place. According to the more detailed report, the transfer was made during the 17th–19th inst. However, to mar the good effect of this intelligence, there also came the tidings that preferential duties on junk-borne cargoes will remain as before and that in fact no essential change of method will be made until the whole question is settled up north. This, of course, means a very long maintenance of what is practically the old and vexatious system hitherto obtaining at Canton. The outcome of the struggle at Canton is most disappointing.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE DINNER.

On the 24th ult. at the Hongkong Hotel the Oxford and Cambridge Dinner, now an annual affair, was held. On this occasion, the third successive anniversary of the Dinner, the Chair was taken by the Rev. R. F. Cobbold and the vice-Chair by the Rev. E. H. Good.

A large number of old Varsity men gathered together, and a very successful evening resulted. After the dinner had been despatched, the health of "The King" was proposed by the Chairman, after which he also proposed the toast of "The Universities," which was responded to by Rev. E. H. Good. Mr. E. H. Sharp proposed "The Army and Navy," to which the Rev. Charles Moore replied. Mr. Norton-Kyshe then followed with a humorous speech, in which he proposed the health of the joint secretaries, Messrs. Good and Wolfe, the latter gentleman responding. Songs, etc., were contributed by Messrs. Pelella, Hays, Wei On (phonograph), Ardron, and others. The string band of H.M.S. *Endymion* contributed during the dinner the following instrumental selections under the able direction of Mr. F. Pelella, the bandmaster:—

March..... "Under Freedom's Flag" Nowowiecki
Overture... "La Ruche D'or" Brepsant
Selection... "San Toy" Jones
Valse..... "Moonlight on the Rhine" Vollstedt
Selection... "A Runaway Girl" Caryl
Gavotte... "Les Cloches De S. Malo" Rimmer

The names of those present were:—Messrs. Ardron, G. H. (Caius, C.), Brayne, F. H. R. (Trinity, C.), Clementi, C. (Magdalen, O.), Cobbold, Rev. R. F. (Caius, C.), Gibson, W. S. (Kable, O.), Gompertz, H. H. J. (Exeter, O.), Grant, A. W. (Pembroke, C.), Hallifax, E. R. (Balliol, O.), Hays, J. (Christ's, C.), James, B. (Merton, O.), Johnston, R. F. (Magdalen, O.), Kyshe, J. W. Norton (Downing, C.), Melbourne, C. A. D. (Trinity Hall, C.), Messer, C. McI. (Emmanuel, C.), Philipps, T. Morgan (Trinity Hall, C.), Pontifex, D. C. (Brasenose, O.), Reeca, J. F. (Christchurch, O.), Sergeant, P. W. (Trinity, O.), Sharp, E. H. (Lincoln, O.), Slade, M. W. (New College, O.), Wei On (Christchurch, O.), Wolfe, E. D. C. (Caius, C.), Wood, G. R. (Jesus, C.); and the following from H. M. Fleet:—Broadbent, F. M. (Magdalen, C.), Dathan, Rev. J. (Cavendish, C.), Franklin, C. S. P. (John's, C.), Good, Rev. E. H. (Brasenose, C.), Macnamara, E. D. (Peterhouse, C.), Moore, Rev. Charles (St. John's, C.), Roberts, H. E. (St. John's, C.).

A Tientsin despatch of the 18th inst. says:—Tientsin port is declared open, the river being clear of ice all the way down to the sea. Lighters are passing freely and the lightship is being got ready quickly to go outside.

Hitherto the right side of Port Arthur harbour has been used for mooring vessels, and streets were constructed on that side only, but an extension is now proposed and the present mooring will in future be used for warships only. The left side of the port is to be devoted to the anchorage of merchant vessels, and dredging work is now in progress. Two dredgers, ten junks, and over 1,000 Chinese labourers are daily employed on the works, about one-fifth of which has been completed.

HONGKONG A.D.C. SMOKING
CONCERT.

Our Amateur Dramatic Club showed a spark of existence on the 22nd ult. when they gave a smoking concert in the Theatre Royal. This was not their first attempt of the kind; the previous occasion being a complimentary dinner and "smoker" to the men of H.M.S. *Terrible* on their arrival on this station from South Africa. The pit of the Theatre was arranged with numerous small tables; and the Connaught House acceptably catered for the refreshments and smokes. Mr. P. W. Goldring, owing to indisposition, was unfortunately unable to sing; otherwise the performers were as announced.

At 9.30 (the advertised time was 9.15) the string band of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers opened the concert with "A Runaway Girl" selection. The band was efficiently represented, and, conducted by Mr. G. H. Moir, R.W.F., performed its items to the satisfaction of all. Messrs. G. H. Ardron and C. H. P. Hay are both vocalists of well-known ability, and we have no doubt that if the audience had not been suffering from reaction after race fever, the singers would have received a well-merited recall. Chopin's "Nocturne No. 2" given by Mr. C. H. Dale as a violin solo, was beautifully played, as was also "Cavaleria Rusticana," an encore piece. Mr. W. G. Worcester and Surgeon Norris, R.N., were very funny—likewise their get-up—and both gentlemen had to re-appear. The topical verses added to "If it wasn't for the 'ouses in between" and "I happened to be there," by Messrs. Norris and Worcester respectively evoked loud applause. A "darkey" song, with banjo accompaniment, was given by Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, and was very well received. A squad of fifteen men of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers gave a splendid display of club drill, the different movements being loudly applauded: in response to an unanimous call, they repeated the two exercises. A very enjoyable evening terminated about 11.30. Mr. A. G. Ward was accompanist, and a better could not be desired.

The programme was as follows:—

- PART I.
- Overture ... "A Runaway Girl" ... Caryll
String Band of Royal Welsh Fusiliers.
- Song ... "Herding Song" ... Sommerville
Mr. G. H. Ardron.
- Violin Solo ... "Nocturne No. 2" ... Chopin
Mr. C. H. Dale
- Song ... "Love's Proving" ... F. H. Lohr
Mr. C. H. P. Hay.
- Comic Song "Little Dottie Brownshoes" ...
Mr. W. G. Worcester.
- Comic Song "If it wasn't for the 'ouses in between"
Surgeon Norris, R.N.
- PART II.
- Overture ... "Valse Bleue" ...
String Band of Royal Welsh Fusiliers.
- Comic Song ... Selected ...
Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe.
- Musical Drill ... by Squad of Royal
Welsh Fusiliers.
- Comic Song ... "The Idler" ...
Surgeon Norris, R.N.
- Song ... "The King's Minstrel" ... Ciro Pinsuti.
Mr. C. H. P. Hay.
- Song ... "I'm the Plumber" ...
Mr. W. G. Worcester.
"God Save the King."

In forwarding a list of articles manufactured in foreign countries and now being used by the Chinese, Mr. Miller, U.S. Consul at Newchwang, says:—The Japanese are imitating a vast number of foreign goods and putting a cheaper quality on the market; they are especially shrewd in imitation of brands. Something of the expansion and diversification of the trade of Japan will be observed from the great variety of things she sells to China. She understands the nature and character of the requirements, and caters to the peculiar artistic taste of the masses and their desire for very cheap goods. There is a constant increase in the variety of imports into China, and one of the causes of success in French trade, and still more in German trade, is the attention given to the desires and wants of the Chinese in regard to small lines of goods, and the ornamentation of goods and packages.

THE COGILL AND SUTTON
ENTERTAINERS.

A full house witnessed the opening performance by this company in the Theatre Royal on the 26th ult. The programme, in the quality and variety of its turns, was a first-rate one and opened with an overture by the band of H.M.S. *Endymion*, which has been engaged by the management and will play nightly during the season. Much has been said and written concerning this company—of the refinement and excellence which characterise its entertainments—and these expressions of approval will doubtless receive ready endorsement from all present at the opening performance last night. The first appearance of any troupe in a strange town is often marked by an awkwardness and uncertainty in the matter of detail which, though natural under the circumstances, are trying to spectators and performers alike. Messrs. Cogill and Sutton's artistes, however, include several "old hands," well-known at home and in the Australasian colonies who, confident masters of their business, find themselves at once in touch with the audience, and carry things along with the freedom and dash so essential to success. Miss Aquinaldo, a seventeen-year-old contortionist, is the principal attraction, and, to quote the words of an Australian contemporary, the managerial term "marvellous" is in her case no misnomer. The pliability of the young lady's frame is extraordinary, and beyond that, no attempt explanatory of her various feats need be made. Miss Aimee Tasma is another juvenile marvel, and in her tight-wire act executes such evolutions as almost seem impossible on the frail-looking strand stretched taut across the stage; her concluding effort, when she revolves on an aerial wheel, holding by the teeth only, is as clever as it is original. A second aerial performer makes her bow in the person of Madame Adalina Sarina, whose able appearance in a line of business generally left, on account of its trying nature, to members of the "sterner" sex, fully justifies the lady's adoption of it, and places some of the "mere men" performers quite in the shade. The graceful movements of Miss Maie Arlea in her terpsichorean representations merited the hearty applause following their conclusion, and no less appreciative was the audience in its reception of Miss Della Ross, a particularly graceful and supple little ballet dancer. Miss Lena Harvey proved herself a very charming serio-comic singer and soubrette. Fred Altro styles himself "the tramp," but if all the tramps with whom the world is burdened possessed even a tithe of Mr. Altro's musical talent, then would the professional "sundowner" become as rare—well, as fresh water in Hongkong. Dave Caston has lost none of the ability he possessed as a comedian since we had the pleasure of seeing him at home, and his fun-making is as easy and natural as ever; as a top-boot dancer he beats anything seen here for a long time. As with Dave Caston at home, so with Harry Cogill in Australia, and his reception last night was as enthusiastic as any that has greeted him in Melbourne. He is not only a wit, he also sings well, and his duet with Miss Maie Arlea was amongst the tit-bits of the evening. A couple of farces were given—*Two Gaiety Girls* and *The Booking Agent*, both of which were very funny. Encores were as frequent as a Hongkong audience knows how to make them, but they were none the less deserved on that account, and were the one proof needed that the entertainment had realised expectations.

A Peking correspondent writing to a Shanghai paper on the "generosity" of the Empress Dowager states that, after the special audience to the various Foreign Ministers, last month, she was so pleased with the efficient manner in which the Officers of the "Green-turbaned" regiments patrolled the route between the Legations and the Palace that "moved by spontaneous kindness" she commanded the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to pay to each Captain of a company of Green-turbaned troops one tael as a special reward.

THE MEDICAL STAFF ENQUIRY.

The following is the report of the Committee of Enquiry into the Adequacy of the Staff of the Medical Department, laid before the Legislative Council on Thursday by command of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government:—

We, the undersigned, were appointed by His Excellency the Governor to be members of a Committee of Enquiry into the Adequacy of the Staff of the Medical Department of the Colony.

2. We have accordingly proceeded on the lines laid down by the Government, and have conducted our enquiry with special reference to:—

- (1.) The numerical strength of the staff of the Medical Department.
- (2.) The position and duties of the Principal Civil Medical Officer.

The following is a list of witnesses from whom we have taken evidence in the course of our enquiry:—

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| The Principal Civil Medical Officer and Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital, ... | Dr. J. M. Atkinson. |
| The Acting Assistant Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital ... | Dr. J. Bell. |
| The Medical Officer of Health ... | Dr. F. Clark. |
| The Deputy Health Officer of the Port ... | Dr. J. H. Swan. |
| Dr. R. M. Gibson of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals. | |

A copy of the evidence given by them accompanies the report, which we beg to submit below for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor.

We have taken the second question which was to be dealt with first, as it is essential to determine the position of the Principal Civil Medical Officer before dealing with his staff.

REPORT.

Question 2.—The position and duties of the Principal Civil Medical Officer.

Answer.—We are of opinion that the Medical and Sanitary Departments should be wholly separate and that the Medical Officer of Health should be independent of the Principal Civil Medical Officer. The Medical Department should be under the jurisdiction of the Principal Civil Medical Officer who, however, should not be an administrative officer only, but should retain his present position as Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital. The Sanitary Department should be under the administration of the Medical Officer of Health subject to the control of the Sanitary Board.

Question 1.—The numerical strength of the Medical Department.

Answer.—After mature consideration we have come to the conclusion that the staff as at present constituted and consisting of:—

- 1 Principal Civil Medical Officer, who is also Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital;
 - 3 Assistant Surgeons;
 - 1 Health Officer of the Port;
- is not sufficient to carry on the work of the Medical Department efficiently. In our opinion, 7 Medical Officers are required:—
- 1 Principal Civil Medical Officer;
 - 4 Assistant Surgeons; and
 - 2 Health Officers of the Port;
- the two last named being Government Officers, who should devote their whole time to Government work and should be forbidden to engage in private practice either ashore or afloat.

We have ascertained in the course of our investigations how much time is taken up with Government medical work in the various branches of the Department, and we beg to submit the subjoined list of duties in tabular form to be assigned to the several officers, one for epidemic and the other for non-epidemic times:—

LIST OF DUTIES OF OFFICERS IN THE
MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Epidemic Period.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Principal Civil Medical Officer. | |
| 4 Assistant Surgeons. | |
| 2 Health Officers of the Port. | |
| Government Civil Hospital, Lunatic Asylum and Maternity Hospital | The Principal Civil Medical Officer and Superintendent. |
| | 2 Assistant Surgeons. |

Victoria Gaol, Tung Wa Hospital, Mortuary, Visit the Subordinate Government Officials in Hongkong. 1 Assistant Surgeon

Kennedy Town Hospital, and (if Hygeia brought over) 1 Assistant Surgeon.

(i.) The Port.

(ii.) Kowloon Plague Hospital and Mortuary, Police and Subordinate Government Officials in Kowloon. 2 Health Officers of the Port—one to reside in Kowloon and do duties as in (ii.); the other as in (iii.); when not engaged in duty in the Harbour.

(iii.) Government Civil Hospital, or as detailed by the Principal Civil Medical Officer.

Non-Epidemic Period.

Government Civil Hospital, Lunatic Asylum, Maternity Hospital, and Mortuary. The Principal Civil Medical Officer and Superintendent; 3 Assistant Surgeons.

Victoria Gaol, Tung Wa Hospital, Visit the Subordinate Government Officials. 1 Assistant Surgeon.

(i.) Port.

(ii.) Kowloon. In charge of the Mortuary. To visit the Subordinate Government Officials and Police in Kowloon. 2 Health Officers of the Port—one to reside in Kowloon.

(iii.) Work as detailed by the Principal Civil Medical Officer and Hygeia.

We are of opinion from evidence given, that, speaking generally, one of the above 7 officers could always be away on leave, his duties being arranged for by the Principal Civil Medical Officer.

We further consider that some closer supervision should be exercised over, or new rules drawn up for the regulation of, the absence on leave of the officers of the Government Medical Department with a view to at least arranging for the presence in the Colony during plague time of the nearest approach to the full staff.

There should always be a Medical Officer on duty at the Government Civil Hospital, and during his tour of duty he should not be permitted to leave the establishment unless for an urgent professional call.

We would suggest that the two Health Officers of the Port divide the Port duties between them, and that during his hours of duty, the officer on duty should always be available for the Port work. One of the two should reside at Kowloon, and during the hours he is not on duty for Port work he should attend to the Kowloon Plague Hospital and Mortuary, and the Government subordinate officials resident at Kowloon. During the hours when the other of the two is not on duty for Port work, he should be employed at the Government Civil Hospital or as the Principal Civil Medical Officer may require. This latter officer might easily attend to the Hygeia during non-epidemic times when he is not engaged on Port duty.

It was stated by Dr. Atkinson in the course of his evidence that "it is the intention of the Government to have a medical inspection of all ships entering the Harbour." In framing our opinion as to the above mentioned staff for Port work, we have not allowed for the carrying out of this intention, which would necessitate a much larger staff.

In conclusion, we consider that it is imperatively necessary that during epidemic times one Medical Officer should reside at the Kennedy Town Hospital.

The report is signed by Messrs. W. B. Drew, D.I.G., R.N. (Chairman.) G. A. Hughes M. B., M.Ch., F.O. Stedman, M.D., B. S. (Lond.), C. S. Sharp, and R. L. Richardson.

The Ichang correspondent of the N.-C. Daily News writes on the 11th inst.:—H.M.S. Woodlark arrived here on Monday, the 3rd. We have been some time now without a British gunboat and were glad to see the Woodlark back. Many reports come from the West of French activity. It would rather have more activity on the part of the British Government. But no doubt when the time comes for action Britain won't be behind.

IMMUNITY OF CAPE COLONY CHINESE FROM PLAGUE.

At the meeting on Thursday of the Hongkong Legislative Council, the Colonial Secretary (Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G.) laid on the table the following correspondence on the immunity of Chinese in Cape Colony from infection of plague:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Hongkong, 30th July, 1901.

Sir,—I am directed by the Governor to inform you that His Excellency has observed a statement in the English papers to the effect that in Cape Colony the Chinese population has enjoyed immunity from infection during the late outbreak of plague.

2. His Excellency would be glad to know to what cause this immunity, if it exists, has been attributed.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,

Colonial Secretary.

The SECRETARY to the HIGH COMMISSIONER, Cape Colony

Government House,

Cape Town, 6th November, 1901

Sir,—With reference to your letter, No. 1862 of the 30th July last, addressed to the Secretary to the High Commissioner, regarding the alleged immunity from infection enjoyed by the Chinese population in Cape Colony during the outbreak of plague, which was referred to this Office on the 25th September last, I am desired by the Governor to transmit herewith, a copy of a report he has received from the Medical Officer of Health for the Colony and Director of Plague Administration, on the subject.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

H. W. B. ROBINSON,

Private Secretary.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, Hongkong.

(Enclosure.)

Office of the Medical Officer of Health for the Colony,

33, Parliament Street, Cape Town, November, 1901.

ALLEGED IMMUNITY OF CHINESE FROM PLAGUE INFECTION.

(1.) With reference to the statement in the English papers to the effect that in Cape Colony the Chinese population has enjoyed immunity from infection of Plague during the present outbreak of the disease, and to the request of His Excellency the Governor of Hongkong to be informed as to the cause of alleged immunity, if it exists, I beg to state that:—

(2.) There are not at my disposal accurate data upon which to base a calculation as to the relative number of Chinese at present residing in Cape Colony as compared with the rest of the population. The last census of the population of the Colony was taken as far back as the year 1891, and according to these returns there were only two hundred and fifteen Chinese males (no females) residing in Cape Colony, but it is certain that this number has largely increased; exactly to what extent, however, it is impossible to say.

(3.) The number of cases of plague which have been discovered up to the present among Chinese during the outbreak is only ten, all of whom were males, namely:—One at Cape Town, eight at Port Elizabeth, and one at Uitenhage; of which number, seven have died, namely:—six at Port Elizabeth, and one at Uitenhage. Of the remainder, one at Cape Town, and one at Port Elizabeth, have been discharged cured; and one at Port Elizabeth is still under treatment.

(4.) A round enumeration of the Chinese, Asiatics (Indians) and Aboriginal Natives at Port Elizabeth, made during the last few days, has resulted in the discovery of 390 Chinese, 384 being males and 6 females; of 707 Indians, 491 being males and 216 females; and of 8,830 Aboriginal Natives. This enumeration of Aboriginal Natives is more likely, however, to be inaccurate than that of Chinese and Asiatics.

(5.) Although these figures are quite insufficient for the purpose of arriving at a final conclusion, yet a rough indication of the relative

incidence of the disease among Chinese, as compared with other races, and especially Indians, may be obtained. They give, in the case of Port Elizabeth, for the Chinese population a case incidence of over two per cent. of the community and a mortality (so far) of over one and a half per cent.; and a case mortality (so far) of seventy-five per cent. of total known attacks.

These rates may be compared with the incidence on Indians living in the same place, among whom four cases of plague, all of whom have died, have been discovered, with give a case incidence and mortality of 0.57 per cent. of the Indian community, and a case mortality of 100 per cent. of the attacks. They may also be compared with the rates for Aboriginal Natives living in Port Elizabeth, among whom forty-four cases of plague have been discovered, of which number, twenty have died, fourteen have been discharged cured, and ten still remain under treatment; giving a case incidence of a little less than a half per cent. of the Aboriginal Native population.

As the final result of so many of the cases among natives at Port Elizabeth is not yet known, no useful rates of mortality can at present be obtained for these Natives, but it is of interest to compare the case mortality in different races among all cases of plague which have so far occurred throughout the Colony (including Port Elizabeth). This has amounted—among Europeans to 34.1 per cent. on a total of 214 cases; among Aboriginal Natives of 42.7 per cent. on a total of 192 cases; and among Coloured persons, chiefly consisting of half-castes and Malays, to 56.7 per cent. on a total of 436 cases.

(6.) So far, therefore, as we can judge from the above figures both the incidence of disease and the mortality, when attacked, is greater among Chinese than among other races.

(7.) It is impracticable to say how far these results have been influenced by inoculation with "Haffkine's Prophylactic," as, apart from the fact that our records do not in every case state the race of the person inoculated, there are so many sources of fallacy in the application of inoculation figures that no reliable deduction can be made. Moreover the number of persons inoculated is so small compared with the size of the communities living in infected areas that, I think, under any circumstances but little effect can be attributed to the inoculation on the course of the epidemic as a whole. Perhaps an exception to this statement may be made in regard to the inoculation of the large body of Natives (between six and seven thousand, who were removed from Cape Town at the beginning of the outbreak and placed in a new location at Uitenhage in the vicinity of the city.

The total of inoculations to date, a large number of which, however, have been performed on Natives and Asiatics living in uninfected portions of the Colony, amount to 29,781, of whom 6,355 were Europeans, and 23,426 were Coloured, Asiatics, and Aboriginal Natives.

(Signed) A. JOHN GREGORY,

Medical Officer of Health for the Colony and Director of Plague Administration.

TERRIBLE VOYAGE OF THE "EVIE I. RAY."

On the arrival on Wednesday of last week at the Mariveles quarantine station in the Philippine Islands of the American barque *Evie I. Ray*, a terrible story of privation and suffering at sea was told by the crew. The *Evie I. Ray* hails from Portland, Maine, but has sailed for years out of Boston. Not long ago Captain Francis Kasten, her present master and almost sole owner, brought the ship out east, completing his voyage at Hongkong. In June of last year the skipper obtained a charter with a Chinese firm of Hongkong to proceed to Rajang, North Borneo, to load lumber for Hongkong, the terms of the charter, it is understood, to be \$10,000 Mex. Leaving Hongkong, the ship carried a crew of Japanese, but beri-beri broke out amongst the men and the skipper put into a Cochin-China port where he telegraphed to his agents here to send him another crew, for the Japanese sailors had all succumbed to the disease. More than four weeks later a Chinese crew reached him, but the ship was barely ready for sea when most of the new men were taken sick with the same disease. The chief officer of the

ship also contracted the malady and was left behind, the ship proceeding short-handed to Rajang. While the work of loading his vessel proceeded, Captain Kasten found that his few remaining men had contracted the disease. Nevertheless he commenced the return voyage, handicapped as he was, for it was impossible to procure sailors in the Borneo port. A few days out to sea and the sailors became utterly helpless until only the skipper and his two officers were fit for duty. The trio had to work the ship as best they could and during constant heavy weather many times expected to lose the craft. They knocked around the China Sea for several weeks hoping to be picked up by some steamer but it was not until about a week ago that they sighted the steamer *Mexican Prince*, bound from Singapore to Hongkong. The steamer promptly took her in tow, and towed her as far as Subig Bay, where Captain Kasten got the U. S. Naval supply-ship *Nanshan* to tow her to Mariveles. Captain Kasten will try to ship a crew of white men to complete his voyage to Hongkong, but at last accounts he has not been very successful in his endeavours in this direction.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are from the *P. & T. Times* of the 15th ult.:

It is rumoured in Peking that the Empress Dowager intends asking the foreign ladies to a picnic on the 27th ult.

New branches of the Imperial Chinese Post Office have been established at Kaiping, Lanchow and Changli, all stations on the Shanhaikwan railway.

The spring of 1902 will witness the usual exodus of old residents bound for home. We understand that passages have already been booked by Mr. and Mrs. Bidwell and family, Mr. and Mrs. Knox and family, Mrs. Macfarlane and Miss Cromarty.

We understand that Mr. Walter Fisher has been elected Chairman of the Council of the Senior Settlement. This is an altogether admirable selection, and one on which the Council and the Landrenters are to be warmly congratulated, though we fear from the onerous and exacting nature of the duties, it is one on which we cannot extend our felicitations to Mr. Fisher himself.

We learn on good authority that all the foreign professors, including the President of the Imperial University, in Peking, have been discharged, their back salaries being paid up to the close of the Chinese Year with a bonus of three months' pay from that date. Economy in administration is alleged as the motive of this revolutionary but retrogressive measure.

The China Inland Mission has published as much as it can collate of the testimony of its martyrs during the tyranny of 1900. The death roll of this one mission was 10 associates, 48 members, and (the pity of it!) 21 children, 79 in all. The book states that the total Protestant loss was 135 adults and 53 children. When one adds to these the Roman Catholic losses and the large number of native Christians, one can see that the "persecution" will rank as one of the greatest in history. Gibbon in his rigid analysis of the famous or infamous Diocletian persecution reduces it to far less dimensions than those of the Boxer "terror."

It has been widely noticed that General Mei has been scurvily treated by the powers that be, notwithstanding his great services. Ma, who brought the strongest forces against us here in Tientsin, has got the "yellow jacket" and other marks of Imperial favour, while Mei has at several audiences been upbraided. Curiously enough, many of the rewards bestowed on Ma have been by inadvertence in the Press put down to the other man, whose great work was keeping the Boxers and malcontents under in S. and S.W. Chihli.

A Peking despatch, dated the 20th February, to the *N.C. Daily News* says:—Over thirty telegrams from Chinese merchants abroad, designating themselves "Members of the 'Protectors of the Emperor' Society," have been received by the Foreign Ministry, addressed to the Emperor, congratulating his Majesty on his safe return to Peking and begging his Majesty to resume the reins of Government at once.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE DOCK CO. AND MR. GILLIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 24th February.

SIR,—At the meeting of the shareholders of the Dock Company held to-day, after a dividend of \$9 per share for the last half-year had, upon the recommendation of the Directors, been declared, the opinion of those present was asked by the Chairman as to whether another meeting should be held to reconsider the proposal rejected at the last general meeting to make a gift to Mr. Gillies out of the funds of the Company of \$50,000, and the shareholders present having by a majority of one (according to the counting of the Secretary) decided in favour of such a meeting being held, it was thereupon stated that the meeting would shortly take place. Now it is not unreasonable, in fact it would appear to be almost necessary to assume from this that a smaller dividend than would otherwise be declared, and than the position and prospects of the Company justified the Directors in recommending, was declared to-day in view of the possibility of the shareholders passing a resolution at the forthcoming meeting to present a large sum of money to Mr. Gillies out of the Company's earnings. This being so it is difficult to understand why notice was not given to the shareholders that the question as to whether the proposed munificent present should be given to Mr. Gillies would be discussed at the meeting held to-day. Had such notice been given a resolution to make the gift would either have been carried or rejected before the declaration of dividend, and if rejected the shareholders would have had a right to expect a proportionately higher dividend than has been declared. If that dividend of \$9 is the most that the Directors were justified in recommending should be paid, where is the money to come from with which to make the proposed present to Mr. Gillies?

It is said that it is proposed to make the gift in question to Mr. Gillies in recognition of the services he has rendered to the Company in bringing it up to its present flourishing condition, and it is probably considered by those who support the proposal that the shareholders would be acting ungratefully in rejecting it. No doubt all the original shareholders, and those who purchased their shares a considerable time ago, if they believe that the present prosperity of the Company is largely due to the exertions of Mr. Gillies, would be acting ungratefully in refusing to give full recognition to Mr. Gillies's services. But it must be remembered that a very large number of the present shareholders have only become such since the Company reached the state of prosperity it is now in, and for the sake of investment. Some indeed purchased their shares at a higher price than the present market rate, and their property has consequently diminished in value. Is it fair to ask those men who cannot be said to have reaped any benefit whatever from Mr. Gillies's exertions to contribute equally with those others who so enormously benefited by becoming shareholders several years ago when the Company was working its way upwards to the position to which it eventually attained, but which has not recently been improved upon? Let those from whom gratitude is due, or who have reason to believe it is due, show it, and show it substantially, but do not let them force others who have no cause for gratitude to assist them pecuniarily.—Yours, etc.,

A SHAREHOLDER.

A SUNDAY EVENING ANNOYANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 24th February.

SIR,—Will you permit me to express my disgust (which I do not doubt is shared by many others) at a form of annoyance which takes place every Sunday evening in St. John's Cathedral:—I refer to the practice of a certain section of the congregation, who remain after the service, until the organist is in the middle of one of the voluntaries, and who then deliberately, and with much dropping of walking sticks, and shuffling of feet, noisily make their way out of

the Church, in most instances selecting a door furthest from where they are sitting, and exhibiting a marked preference for those places in the tiled pavement not covered with matting. The majority of people who remain behind, I imagine, are those who are fond of hearing good music, and therefore anyone who behaves as I have stated can have no real wish to listen to the organ, and should either leave the church at the conclusion of the service, or else keep seated till the voluntary is concluded. To do as I have described is excessively annoying to those who are desirous of hearing the music, extremely bad form, and a direct insult to the organist.—Yours, etc.,

"N. O."

NEXT YEAR'S RACES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 25th February.

SIR,—I would call the attention of Hongkong racing men to the important question of the supply of racing ponies for next year. It is time, seeing the incompetence of the Stewards in this matter, that the subscribers themselves should take more interest in the means by which they can procure a decent lot of ponies in the future. What is to be done? Are we to let the Stewards supply us with another lot of rubbish—the culls of the sale-yards—when we know that there is an abundant supply of good sound young horses from 14.2 to 15.0 hands, practically thoroughbreds, costing less than £3 per head? and allowing, say, £15 per head for freight, insurance, &c., &c., that these horses would only cost about \$250 landed in Hongkong? Why cannot the matter be gone into with a little commonsense? Horses cannot be bought to sample like piece goods; it is necessary that the selection be left to some competent and trustworthy person. This being so, why cannot the Club import its own horses through one of the great Pastoral Agency Firms of Australia: I refer to houses like Messrs. Dalgety & Co., Goldsbrough Mort & Co., John Bridge and Sons, Pitt Son and Badger, Union Mortgage and Agency Co. Ltd., B.D. Morehead & Co., &c., &c. Any of these firms would supply us with a good even lot of young and sound blood horses, which would give us interesting racing, and not a lot of weary processions, such as took place with one or two exceptions at the meeting just concluded. Trusting that intending subscribers will take this matter up at the forthcoming general meeting of the Club and enclosing my card, yours, &c.,

CROCK-OWNER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 26th February, 1902.

SIR,—I have read the letter signed "Crock-Owner" which appeared in your issue of to-day. It seems a pity that "Crock-Owner" could not have written above his real name, as in that case intending subscribers might gain valuable information from him as to importing a good class of animal at a moderate price, as I conclude that was the aim and object of every one who subscribed last year. I cannot, however, allow the Stewards to be found fault with when they were in no way to blame for the class of animal which arrived here last October. It was the subscribers who placed their order in the hands of Mr. Abrams of Singapore, principally, I think, upon the recommendation of Mr. Bell-Irving and myself. We were actuated by the best of motives, but unfortunately the result was disappointing. Had the subscribers then known of the existence of anyone in Hongkong with such extensive knowledge as that apparently possessed by "Crock-Owner" as to the means of procuring an abundant supply of good, sound, young horses from 14.2 to 15 hands which could be landed in Hongkong at about \$250 per head, I feel sure he would have been asked to assist with advice. It is a pity he has kept his knowledge to himself for so long and now writes under a *nom-de-plume*.—Yours, etc.,

GODFREY C. C. MASTER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 27th February.

SIR,—I am very glad to see Mr. Master's letter exonerating the Stewards of the Jockey Club and to find that he alone is responsible for the last lot of griffins. Mr. Master is to be

complimented for his straightforwardness in accepting the sole responsibility, and I feel sure that he will not be caught napping again; anyone is liable to be victimised in their first essay at horse-buying. Of course the difference in quality of the last lot will not have appealed so strongly to Mr. Master as to some other subscribers, as he was so extremely fortunate as to draw some of the best ponies.

My reason for hiding my identity under a *nom de plume* is that, being an utterly unimportant person in the Colony, I felt certain that had my letter appeared under my own name it would have minimised its effect, and the probability is that the information contained therein would not have been appreciated as apparently it has been.

Mr. Master is in error when he says that I might be able to supply some more valuable information if I would come from under the cover of my *nom de plume*; all the information I have to give is contained in my first letter and may be summarised thus—*When you want a good article go to the best people.*—Yours, etc.,

(LATE) CROCK-OWNER.

VICTORIA GAP TERMINUS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 26th February.

SIR,—As a constant traveller by the Peak Tramway, I should like to know when the management propose to render the station at the upper terminus a reasonable shelter from the elements. At present it is open to the sky, and persons using the tram have to get wet in getting in and out. This does not matter during the light rains of winter, but when the summer torrents come it is quite another story. Then passengers can easily get seriously wet and uncomfortable, and the platform is a most miserable place on which to pass a five or ten minutes' wait, with the rain, beating in and rendering the seats unusable. It is especially distressing for ladies clad in summer costume. They may reach the station dry and trim and natty in their chairs, but five minutes on that dreary platform and a dash through a descending shower into the tram reduce them to a bedraggled condition most mortifying when, as is invariably the case with the fair sex, they wish to meet people below in neat and taking costumes. I hope, therefore, the General Managers will lose no time in getting this urgently needed improvement in the Victoria Gap station effected. If commenced at once the station might be roofed over before the summer rains set in, and all Peak residents, and particularly the ladies, would be most grateful for the shelter. The question of cost need not be considered. The company are doing so well and are now so prosperous that they can easily afford to cater a little for the comfort of the passengers who provide the good dividends now paid.—Yours, etc.,

PEAKITE.

THE HONGKONG-KOWLOON FERRY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 26th February.

SIR,—In one of the evening papers I read the other day a paragraph headed "Genteel Swindlers," which reveals a depth of depravity previously unheard of in this sweet Hongkong of ours. It seems that there exist villains who believe that five cents is enough for the fare between Hongkong and Kowloon. These rascals have evidently travelled and noticed that about a penny is the usual thing for such a ride in other places possessing a similar degree of civilisation, and have by iniquitous methods been getting across the harbour for this sum. That the Star Ferry Co., Ltd., should be swindled by such scoundrels is enough to make one shrink with horror from the contemplation thereof. That a company which only pays 12 per cent. dividends, and charges fifteen cents for a five-cent fare, is cheated simply because its own employees do not look sharply enough after their business, is really distressful. But the management know some of the offenders, so no doubt they will punish them by raising the fare to the public to twenty cents!

And those wretched clubs—they also used to cheat, and therefore the public must pay fifteen cents for a five-cent fare. The clubs got what they deserved, and as may be read in the report of the company's general meeting, ship's officers

—who receive such fabulous incomes—will have in future to pay fifteen cents for a five-cent fare. There are no ships' officers or tourist members of the clubs, but that is another question.

One must sympathise with the Star Ferry Co., Ltd., for it has the public spirit to charge only fifteen cents for a five-cent fare. But it is not the only company whose philanthropy has been imposed upon. Even in London, that place of purity, there was once a scoundrel who travelled on the "Underground" 2nd class with a 3rd class ticket. He was caught, and the whole country breathed freer to think that so vile a criminal was no longer at large. Shocking therefore as the recent cases have been, Hongkong has the poor satisfaction of knowing that she is not alone in her humiliation.

Now, what is to be done for the Star Ferry Co., Ltd.? To protect itself, the fare should certainly be raised to twenty cents. Will any public-minded shareholder call a meeting and ask the Directorate to adopt this course? Meanwhile the public can go on paying fifteen cents for a five-cent fare.—Yours, etc.,

SIC TRANSIT.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LD.

The ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held on the 24th ult. at the offices, Queen's Buildings. Mr. R. Shewan (chairman), presided, and the others present were—Mr. W. B. Dixon (chief manager), Hon. C. P. Chater, Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, and Messrs. A. Haupt, D. E. Brown, E. Goetz, H. P. White, G. H. Medhurst, T. I. Rose (secretary), J. Anderson, A. Babington, T. H. Reid, D. E. Brown, Major H. H. Brown, R.A.M.C., K. A. Chinoy, J. A. Chinoy, G. H. Dann, A. Denison, A. R. Ezekiel, J. McG. Forbes, E. J. Grist, D. Haskell, J. Hastings, Ho Fook, J. L. Houston, H. Humphreys, Ho Kom Tong, E. H. Hinds, S. A. Joseph, E. S. Joseph, J. J. Leiria, Lo Cheung Shin, S. H. Michael, J. R. Michael, S. J. Michael, R. Mitchell, H. M. H. Nemazee, P. C. Potts, W. H. Purcell, J. F. Reece, E. W. Rutter, M. W. Slade, F. Smyth, T. S. Takawanagi, A. Tillett, P. Witkowski, C. N. Young, etc.

The notice convening the meeting having been read.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the report and statement of accounts having been in your hands for some time past, we will, with your permission, take them as read. It once more affords your Directors much satisfaction to be able to lay before you the best record for any corresponding period. The amount available for appropriation, including \$459,695.15 brought forward from last half year, is \$1,494,895.02, and the Board recommends this amount to be distributed as follows:—That a dividend of 10 per cent. and a bonus of 8 per cent. absorbing \$450,000 be paid to shareholders, a bonus of \$20,000 to contributing shareholders, and one of \$25,000 to the European staff; that \$155,988.36 be written off the value of Kowloon Docks, \$23,787.07 from the Cosmopolitan Dock, and the balance, \$420,119.59, to be carried to the new account. The expenditure on capital account, new building and new machinery during the past half-year has been over \$300,000, so, as we only write off about \$180,000 out of the profits, we are, so far as our cash is concerned, some \$120,000 more in debt, and in spite of all our writing off, the book value of the Docks at Kowloon will still stand at \$1,800,000 as against \$1,700,000 this time last year. Allusion has been made in the report to the tonnage figures of ships docked during the past half-year, which show an increase of 5 per cent. on corresponding period of 1900. This increase, however, is entirely due to the dockings of heavy war-vessels. The total tonnage of merchant vessels docked here during the past six months shows a decline of 4 per cent. as compared with a similar period of 1900. As it is understood that there is an actual increase of tonnage entering the port (though the figures are not yet published) it may be taken that we are beginning to feel the competition of other dockyards in the East. Whether that is so or not can only be ascertained by a longer experience, but it may serve as a reminder that we may not unlikely feel competition more than we have hitherto done and that we should be prepared

to meet it by exercising all reasonable economies in administration and management. With regard to the several docks, Aberdeen has established a record in one month's earnings. Should the surplus tonnage continue, it may be desirable to add some new plant at this Dock. The Cosmopolitan Dock is making use of electric plant for lighting the Dock and for the use of electric motors on a few machines at night. The Kowloon Dockyard differs from the rest of your property. From its site it has been singled out for great developments in the past and in the future. It has been, and still is, in course of development, i.e. in a transition state. In order to complete the transfer of the old engine works to the new quarters and to set up a power station, provide engines, boilers, dynamos, electric motors, dock and shop-lighting, &c., &c., a further large expenditure may shortly have to be undertaken. Other developments involving purchase of property on the north side are a part of the scheme. I do not include in these remarks the project for a new dock, which will have to be taken as a separate scheme when the site for the dock is secured. The present No. 1 Dock is the largest graving dock in the East. The proposed new dock is designed for larger vessels. If docks take years to negotiate they also take years to make. Already we have been confronted with a ship of war of too great beam to enter No. 1 Dock with safety. Several ships are built, and probably in the next decade many more ships will be built, of dimensions too great to enter the No. 1 Dock at Kowloon. The tendency of modern ship-building for the mercantile marine is all that way. On the other hand, it must be noted that for English ships of war a provision is being made in Hongkong, by the new Admiralty Dock now in course of construction, and another large dock is being constructed by our neighbours Messrs. Butterfield & Swire besides other docks in the East. Foreign ships of war muster here in considerable numbers, as our figures show, and, despite the Admiralty Dock, we may expect to get some, though fewer English and more foreign, ships of war to the Docks in the future. With regard to ship-building, if undertaken on a large scale, it could only be made more profitable when run as a distinct department with the staff and plant set apart exclusively. Hitherto the new work has had to be taken along with the repair work, which cannot under any circumstances be allowed to wait. When labour, plant, and materials are urgently required, and limited, the margin of each, required for or engaged upon new work is frequently, as occasion requires, taken away to some breakdown or damaged vessel. This is unprofitable. With regard to the current year, apart from the question of the new dock, we are still considering the scheme for a power station, with boilers, dynamos, and motors, which would, if completed, undoubtedly effect large savings in coal, and what is perhaps equally important, in water, and also in labour required for driving the machinery at Kowloon. The outlay will, however, be considerable, say \$300,000. The keel has been laid of a new and powerful steam tug with twin screws, for our own use in transporting, and also for towing ships to sea. This appeared a necessary step to take, looking at the age and comparatively small size of the *Fame* in conjunction with the rapidly increasing size of ships. Now that the Spanish-America war and the business accrued thereby has passed, and also much of the business occasioned by the disturbance in North China, we must look to the development of trade generally in the East to make up for any falling off in that respect. The probabilities of such development are very great, but I need not enlarge upon them now. The powers of Europe, the United States and others, are pressing for admission to the trade of China, and whatever the result may be politically, the effect, so far as this Company is concerned, must be to bring more business our way. I refer chiefly to docking and repair work, which is undoubtedly more profitable to us than new. During the past half-year we have had to deplore the loss of our late manager, Mr. Cooke, who had served the Company off and on for twenty-two years. Mr. Cooke was not only an old and greatly valued servant of the Company, but a man who

was loved by all who knew him, for his many fine qualities and kindly disposition. Another old servant of the Company who will be greatly missed by all our friends and customers passed away in the person of Mr. Alexander Aitken, who had been with us since 1875. The year having been a record one for the Company, we recommend that all the foreign employees be allowed to share in its prosperity by a bonus of \$25,000, and we trust the suggestion will meet with your cordial approval. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

There were no questions, and the CHAIRMAN moved that the report and accounts as presented be adopted and passed.

In seconding the motion, Mr. H. HUMPHREYS said—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I am glad to see that provision has again been made for a bonus to the European staff. They work very hard and have few holidays and thoroughly deserve all they get. I am also glad to find that the directors have not yielded to the clamour of a few shareholders for more dividend. We must not forget that we have to face continual expenditure in improvements in workshops and in machinery; and there is also the big item in connection with the new dock to face in the near future which I should like to see paid for out of profits. Knowing that considerable sums of money are invested in our shares by trustees, I think it would not be advisable to increase the capital unless absolutely inevitable. It would be much better, in my opinion, if money is wanted, in the future, if we raised it by an issue of debentures. I was quite expecting, Mr. Chairman, that you would make one or two remarks about Mr. Gillies, our late manager. I understand that some representation—or, rather, some petition from a few shareholders—had been made to the directors to reconsider their decision in regard to the present to be made to Mr. Gillies, which, in my opinion, was inadequate. I was not here when that was passed at the half-yearly meeting, otherwise I should have voted for a very much more valuable present. Some shareholders may say that Mr. Gillies is a rich man, and that he has no family to support, but I do not consider that that is any reason why he should be treated differently from others. Mr. Ede, of the Union Insurance Company, was a rich man and had no family, and he got £5,000. I think some such similar amount would be the very least recognition we could give Mr. Gillies for his long and valuable service to this company. I have much pleasure in seconding the accounts.

The CHAIRMAN—Before proceeding with the adoption of the report and accounts, I should like to explain that the question of the presentation to Mr. Gillies will be taken separately at a private meeting to be held after this meeting is finished.

The motion was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. H. WICKING, seconded by Mr. P. C. POTTS, the appointment as directors of the Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Hon. C. E. Chater, and Messrs. H. P. White, G. H. Medhurst, and E. Goetz, was unanimously confirmed.

The Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving and Mr. E. Goetz, who retired by rotation from the Board of Directors, were re-elected, on the motion of Mr. G. H. DANN, seconded by Mr. E. W. RUTTER.

Mr. Ho Fook moved that Messrs. T. Arnold and F. Henderson be re-elected auditors.

Mr. C. N. Young seconded, and the motion was carried without opposition.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. I am much obliged to you for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready on application at ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

THE HONORARIUM TO MR. GILLIES.

At the private meeting held afterwards it was resolved to present Mr. Gillies with the sum of £5,000. The amount voted at the last half-yearly meeting was \$10,000.

Captain S. H. Harford, the British Consul at Manila, is reported to be retiring; he goes home shortly. He is the dean of the Consular service the world over. It is probable that Mr. W. H. M. Sinclair, the present Vice-Consul, will succeed him.

PUNJOM MINING COMPANY, LD.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the fifth ordinary general meeting to be held at the office of the Company, No. 13, Beaconsfield Arcade, on Tuesday, the 4th March, at noon:—

In submitting to the shareholders the statement of accounts and report of the Company for the year ended 31st December, 1901, the Directors have to express regret that the development at the mines has not been more rapid; yet, when the difficulties of prospecting over large areas of dense jungle, every yard of which has to be cut and cleared, are considered, the work done must be regarded as satisfactory. In prospecting it must be remembered that a great deal of the trenching has to be done, many small shafts have to be sunk to uncertain depths, numerous drives and tunnels started, and that work of this nature is slow, expensive, and frequently disappointing.

During the past year, specimens of exceptionally rich stone have been found in the Swah Valley and are now on view at the Company's office. At the point where these specimens were found a tunnel was started in a westerly direction, in which some nice looking stone was cut at 362 ft. from its mouth, and in driving north some gold-bearing quartz heavily mineralised, was struck, from which the yield by dish-washing was from 1 dwt. to 1 ounce of gold per ton, with a promising reef overhead about one foot thick, and several pieces of the stone showing specks of coarse gold were found. In trenching on the surface of this hill, pieces of quartz showing fine gold and prospecting well, evidently thrown from the cap of the reef cut in the tunnel, have also been met with, and a deep alluvial deposit from which good returns may be looked for. A trial crushing was made in October last of 70 tons of surface stuff broken and collected in this locality, which gave 13½ ounces of smelted gold, the equivalent of 3 dwts. 17 grains per ton; a result that may be considered good, when it is remembered that 76,620 tons of headings were crushed from January, 1897, to December, 1899, for an average yield of 1 dwt. 4 grains per ton.

Exploitation is going on at other places to the north of Swah, and at Batu Valley, midway between Swah and Chindras, a big blow of stone crops up in the gully. These places are all on the same range of hills, where there is an almost continuous run for miles of old workings by the Siamese, the prospects of which seem to be very promising.

In the Chindras Valley a site for a camp was selected on account of its central position and probable developments, and the European staff, as well as the native workmen, have been in occupation for some months. A great deal of energy has been displayed in prospecting this district, which has led to the discovery of heavily mineralised ore assaying 3 dwts. 22 grains per ton, and subsequently, several fair prospects have been obtained, the highest giving 5 dwts. 5 grains of gold per ton. Extensive trenching has also been done on what appears to be the main line of reef, which is increasing in size with development, and the Mining Manager continues to write very hopefully of this district.

Of the two prospecting shafts in the Pang-gong Valley mentioned in the last report, the one at South Jalis proved disappointing, and has been abandoned; whilst that at Mill Gully will have to be given up because of the water encountered, but another will be sunk at a point near thereto, where a former manager, Mr. Blamey, proposed to sink, and this position, in the opinion of the present manager, is thought to be worth a trial.

Tin has been found in the southern part of the concession, and will have attention as soon as opportunity serves.

The new dam has been completed, and is a most substantial work. It has already stood the test, in December last, of a flood as heavy as any of those which carried away previous dams, and it still had a margin of 8 feet on the bywash 135 feet in width. Its catchment area is about 6,500 acres, with an average rainfall of about 100 inches yearly, no fear need be entertained, therefore, of lack of water to supply power for crushing far in excess of requirements, even in the most droughty season.

Unfortunately, however, there is at present

no payable ore at hand to crush, nor can there be until the tramway to Swah has been laid, which it is expected will be completed in March next, the material being now on the way to Singapore. The value of the old headings had dwindled down by repeated picking to 17 grains per ton and were becoming poorer every month, consequently too unprofitable for treatment.

DIRECTORS.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, Messrs. Thos. Howard and W. Kerfoot Hughes retire from the board, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. D. Gillies has resigned his seat on the board in view of his intended departure for Europe.

ACCOUNTS.

The Accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Henderson, and the board recommends him for re-election.

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 20th February, 1902.

The following is the report of Mr. Thos. Lester, mining manager, dated 4th January, 1902:—

Gentlemen,—I beg to submit my report on your mine for the period commencing 14th February, the date of my arrival, to the 31st December, 1901.

Dam.—This was being rebuilt under the supervision of Mr. James Walker, who left in May. The excavation and embankment was not finished until about August, when it was found that considerable repairs to the parapet were necessary. The water was got through to the mill in October, when a small trial crushing of 70 tons of surface stone, from Swah, was treated for a yield of 13 ozs. 10 dwts. smelted gold.

The dam is a substantial piece of work, and the water reserve will give ample power for all requirements, even in the driest of seasons. Had this dam been constructed years ago, it would have effected a considerable saving to the Company in times past.

Mill.—This was pulled down and rebuilt out of the old material, with the exception of two new mortar-boxes. The machinery was ready for work in September.

Mines.—A shaft named the "South Jalis" was sunk 100 ft. deep, the position being about 800 ft. south of the old August shaft. Two levels were driven, east and west respectively, the former 120 ft. 6 inches and the latter 194 ft. 6 inches. As nothing was located in either of the levels, the mine was closed down in the latter end of August.

Another shaft, called "Mill Gully," situated about 750 ft. in a north-easterly direction from the August shaft, was down about 150 ft. and flooded. Machinery of a stronger type was erected and pumping was commenced about the end of February. The water was bailed out and sinking resumed on the 14th March. The shaft was sunk a depth of 150 ft., and at a depth of 140 ft. a level was started north and driven 135 ft. At the end of this level a crosscut has been driven 18 ft. east. At a distance of 40 ft. from the shaft a crosscut has been driven 110 ft. west. Up to the present, nothing has been located in any of the drives. The mine has been very expensive owing to the large quantity of water we have had to contend with.

Prospecting.—As there were only two miners in the employ of the Company when I arrived, very little was done by way of prospecting during the first four months, except at Swah—where a tunnel was started in March—and clearing of jungle. The three additional miners arrived in June, and since that time an immense amount of work has been done in the Swah and Chindras districts. The following work and prospects are to be reported concerning Swah:—"After driving the tunnel 362 ft. and a crosscut from the end in a northerly direction for a distance of 25 ft., gold-bearing stone was cut, early in November, and up to the present it is looking well. As a considerable amount of alluvial gold has been obtained from the foot of Swah hill, and the surface stone crushes fairly well—the whole of which must have been thrown from the reef we are now working—it is only reasonable to think that a bright future awaits us in this district, and I have every confidence

that the reef will turn out well." In view of the probable large quantity of ore to be mined, it has been deemed necessary to order a tram-line, to be ready by the time the mine is opened up.

Chindras. — We have not been so fortunate here, but are prospecting a reef from 2 ft to 6 ft. wide which outcrops for a distance of over a quarter of a mile. At times we obtain some very good prospects by dish-washing, and I would not be surprised if shortly I am able to report a good find. Judging from the amount of work done in the near vicinity of the lode, a large amount of alluvial gold must have been obtained by the workers, though no doubt it is many years ago. Unfortunately, work is at a standstill at present owing to the prevailing sickness amongst both natives and Europeans. I am sorry to say that both the Europeans are laid up with malarial fever.

Tin.—Early in April a Malay reported that he had discovered tin in the southern portion of the concession. At first it was thought to be of some value, but when tried later, the wash proved to be very shallow and the tin of a very low grade. I have not been able to spare any of the Europeans to prospect in this district, but will do so as soon as circumstances will allow.—I remain, Yours respectfully,

THOMAS LESTER, Manager.

The accounts are as follows:—

BALANCE-SHEET.

31st December, 1901.

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Authorised capital:—			
60,000 ordinary shares at \$10	\$600,000		
30,000 preference shares at \$10	300,000		
	\$63,000		

Paid-up capital:—			
59,503 ordinary shares at \$10	\$595,030		
147 ordinary shares (forfeited)			
at \$5 paid	735		
350 ordinary shares not allotted			
60,000	\$595,765		
Less calls not paid	33,522		
	\$557,243		
30,000 preference shares at \$10	300,000		
	587,243.00		

Accounts payable	5,938.74
Unclaimed dividends	1,437.77
Bills payable	499.31
	\$595,118.82

PROPERTY AND ASSETS.

	\$	c.
Cost of estate	157,964.39	
Machinery, plant and equipment	67,182.04	
Cyanide plant	12,320.27	
Development of concession	8,118.26	
New and Kladi dams	32,171.65	
Buildings	17,429.51	
Roads and bridges	10,910.07	
Bullock carts and live stock	1,124.27	
Furniture at mines	1,988.10	
Stores on hand	16,727.31	
Firewood and timber on hand	2,930.63	
Cash at mines	4,672.55	
Merchandise loaned	49.80	
Concentrates	469.18	
Gold purchases	584.04	
Accounts receivable	4,479.76	
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Singapore	3,346.28	
Cash on hand and at bankers	27,779.47	
Head office furniture	467.43	
Balance of working account	224,403.81	
	\$595,118.82	

WORKING ACCOUNT.

To 31st December, 1901.

Dr.	\$	c.
To balance from last account	145,353.66	
To operation at mines	36,839.26	
To fees and arrears to Sultan of Pahang and Orang Kaya	4,178.80	
To prospecting	7,014.16	
To general expenses at mines	14,959.10	
To Panggong office expenses	3,205.50	
To salaries, wages and head office charges	5,815.43	
To insurance	239.77	
To telegrams	164.20	
To exchange account	404.68	
To agency fees	2,400.00	
To directors' and auditor's fees	5,150.00	
	\$225,724.56	

Cr.	\$	c.
By interest	1,005.02	
By transfer fees	37.25	
By sundry revenues	278.48	
By balance	224,403.81	
	\$225,724.56	

SUPREME COURT.

Saturday, 22nd February.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE.)

MANSLAUGHTER.

Lau Chan and To Chin Hon, a married couple, were charged with the manslaughter of a female child on the 30th ult. They pleaded not guilty.

The jury was as follows:—A Muller, J. Witchell, G. M. Gutierrez, F. Blunck, H. Arnold, E. V. Gros, and A. Weill.

The Hon. W. Meigh Goodman, K.C., Attorney-General, in opening the case, said the two prisoners were husband and wife, and were charged with the manslaughter of their little child, a newly-born infant, aged about ten days. The prisoners lived at a place called San-fun-wai, between Castle Peak and Pingshan, and the nearest doctor or druggist lived at the latter place, distant about two miles. On the 30th ult. Lance-Sergeant John Grant was on duty at San-fun-wai, and as he was passing a dry ditch he noticed a basket lying there. He thought he saw something move in the basket, and on approaching to investigate he heard a slight moaning. In the basket was a little female child, lying face down and with its legs hanging over the side of the basket. The only clothing covering the child was a piece of rag, whilst a portion of a fishing-net was thrown over all. Lance-Sergeant Grant wrapped the baby in his jacket and took it to the Police Station at San-fun-wai, where two amahs were engaged to look after it. The child had a very bad cough and seemed to have some difficulty in breathing, but it lived till about seven o'clock the next night, or thirty-six and a half hours after being taken out of the ditch. The next step was to find out how the child came there, and Lance-Sergeant Grant made enquiries, which elicited that the child had come from the village of San-fun-wai. He went round and saw the two prisoners, in order to ask them if they knew anything about the matter. They made no attempt at concealment; the man said yes, he had put the child there—he thought it was dead. The mother said—"The child died, and my husband took it out and put it away in the ditch." Continuing, the Attorney-General said he had made some enquiries with a view to ascertaining what the custom was with people in the San-fun-wai district as to burials, and a Chinese doctor from Pingshan, who would be called as a witness, had stated that in the case of a child who died before reaching the age of one month the custom in the village was not to trouble about burial; if, however, it was over a month old at death, the child was buried in the ordinary way by the elders of the village. The Chinese doctor already mentioned examined the child, and found signs of convulsions; pneumonia of five days' standing was also apparent, and in his opinion the child would have died whether it had been placed in the ditch or not. Concluding, the Attorney-General said that if what the parents had done accelerated the death of the child, even though they did not mean to kill it, they would be guilty of manslaughter; if, however, the jury believed that the prisoners honestly thought the child to be dead when they placed it in the ditch, then the verdict would be one of not guilty.

The evidence of the Chinese doctor was interesting. He said it was the custom of people like the prisoners to bury a child immediately after death, as, if the body remained in the house for any time, they feared that its ghost would bring bad luck to future children.

The jury retired for a few minutes, and brought in an unanimous verdict of guilty. The prisoners were sentenced to nine months' imprisonment each.

Monday, 24th February.

ARMED ROBBERY.

Three coolies were charged with armed robbery in Wellington Street on 5th February and the receiving of stolen goods. On the

opening day of the Sessions other four men accompanied the accused in the dock, but as these pleaded guilty the case was adjourned in order to have their evidence taken against the remaining three.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. J. H. Danenberg, J. J. Sibbit, F. L. Marques, E. I. Ellis, Shi Po Shan, E. E. Andrus, and F. A. Brown.

The Attorney-General, Mr. W. Meigh Goodman, K.C., who (instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, prosecuted) stated that on the afternoon of 5th February a very daring, impudent robbery was committed at 24, Wellington Street. At the place where the robbery occurred Wellington Street was built upon on both sides and it certainly was a very bold thing for those thieves to break into a house under these circumstances, terrorise the people with revolvers and choppers, and go off with their booty scot-free. But in this case they seemed to have miscalculated the energy of the police. He thought the police had done very well to have found out the robbers here and brought the guilt home to them. What the jury had to deal with that morning however, was not the four men who actually committed the robbery but the share which the men who were empanelled and who pleaded not guilty, had in this crime. The facts of the case were these. There were two women and a boy living in a house on the first floor at 24, Wellington Street. There was no man in the place to protect them, and that was primarily the reason why the robbers selected this place for the robbery. Against the first prisoner who stood in the dock the case was this, that before the robbery took place the four men who had pleaded guilty assembled at his house and concocted a plan for robbing the house in question. He was present when the plan was concocted. The four men got access to the house by an artful ruse. One of them knocked at the door and said he had brought a letter. The women inside the house asked where it came from. He answered "Canton," and they opened the door in the belief that it was a postman who had knocked, whereupon the four robbers marched in, terrorised the inmates with revolvers and choppers, and ransacked the house. All this time the prisoner whom he had indicated kept watch outside, having arranged to let off some crackers in the event of the appearance of the police. The men put their loot up in a bundle. As soon as they got outside the question of getting rid of the clothing of which the proceeds of their crime principally consisted, presented itself. The prisoner already mentioned took the bundle to another of the three, who, finding a revolver among the goods, sent an employee to scrounge it; the latter threw it into a nullah. He (the Attorney-General) was told that these revolvers were not very efficacious but were only things to frighten people with; in this case, however, they effected their purpose. The bundle of stolen property afterwards came into possession of the third prisoner. It would be for the jury to decide whether he was guilty in the same degree as his two companions in the dock of the reception of stolen goods.

Evidence was then taken.

The jury found the prisoner who had waited outside the house to warn the robbers guilty of robbery with violence and larceny, and he was sentenced to five years' hard labour, with two whippings of twenty strokes each. His cousin, who received the stolen goods, got twelve months' hard labour, and the third prisoner was discharged. Of the four who pleaded guilty to the armed robbery, three were sentenced each to five years' hard labour with two whippings of twenty strokes each, and one to three years' hard labour.

The Captain of the *Knight Companion*, which was recently wrecked off Cape Inuboye, has been exonerated from blame by the Yokohama Marine Court.

Chinese immigration from the island of Hainan to Sarawak is increasing owing to the high profits from pepper-growing in that state. It takes some years as a rule for a coolie to become a partner in a payable garden, and of course only a small percentage become partners at all; but the Chinaman is willing to take his chance of that.

FOOTBALL.

H.K.F.C. v. R.E. RECREATION CLUB.

This was a friendly game, played on the 24th ult., and the Club's team was of the scratch order. A poor turn-out of spectators was present.

Teams:—

H.K.F.C.—Goal, Kew; backs, Worcester and McDonald; halves, Jenkins, Bonner, and Howard; forwards, Lowe, Norton-Kyshe, Graham, Danby, and Clark.

R. E. Recreation Club.—Goal, Widdows; backs, Bowyer and Thornhill; halves, Caulfield, Stedman, and Campbell; forwards, Karrigan, Rutter, Hills, Robinson, and Pearson.

Referee—Mr. D. Brown.

The opening passages of the game were slow, the ball, from the kick-off by the Engineers, being sent aimlessly hither and thither in centre. Danby made the first break and tried to open the scoring for the Club, but his shot traversed the goal and went past. He made a second attempt a few moments later, but was stopped by Stedman. Karrigan travelled along the wing and put in a well-placed but weak shot which McDonald accounted for. The Engineers' goal narrowly escaped disaster, Graham just missing the net with a low ball from close quarters. The game was being played mostly in Engineer territory, and Norton-Kyshe, lying off-side (although the fact escaped the referee's notice), was baffled in an effort to find the net. He was guilty of the same irregularity again, and was warned by Lowe; the referee's whistle was the next intimation that the player was violating the rules. Danby muffed the finest chance of the first half by topping the net with a shot half-a-dozen yards out. The interval came without any scoring.

Clarke, who was absent during the first half, arrived in time to lend a hand for the Club in the second. A minute or so from the re-start Graham shot for goal, and had the satisfaction of seeing Danby, with a neat header, score the opening goal of the match. Widdows stopped a fine dropping shot from Lowe (who had taken Norton-Kyshe under his care on the right wing), and was relieved from responsibility immediately afterwards through Clark, who had the goal at his mercy, being given off-side. The second goal against the Engineers came from one of their own men. Widdows was stooping to catch an easy ground ball that nobody had followed up, when Bowyer, who had no right under the circumstances to touch the ball, languidly shoved out his foot and upset Widdows' calculations by changing the course of the ball, which rolled into the net. Pearson, with an absolutely open goal, failed to score—only one, however, of many flukes on both sides. The game was a very poor one, and ended in a win for the Club by two goals to nil.

SHIELD TIE—"A" CO., R.W.F. v. "H" CO., R. W. F.

These teams met on Tuesday, 18th ult., and made an unsuccessful attempt to decide their tie in the game, after one hour and a half's play, ending in a draw of one goal each. They met again on Thursday afternoon, when "A" Co. succeeded in winning the match by 1 goal to 0. This they scored in the second half, when appearances pointed very strongly to another drawn game. The teams were as follows:—

"A" Co.:—Goal—Rhodes; backs—Bellis and Phillips; halves—Croft, Beran, and Deegan; forwards Gregory, Andrews, Stevens, Hunt, and Jones.

"H" Co.:—Goal—Whitney; backs—Smart and Edwards; halves—Roberts, Pownall, and Sweet; forwards—Pugh, Williams, Shields, Walters, and Dobbs.

"H" Co. kicked off, but "A" Co. made the first attack, and finished with a drive for goal. The ball topped the net, and following the goal kick "H" Co. paid a visit to the other end of the field, making nothing by it, however. A dangerous shot from Andrews at close quarters just missed the net, and a second from Jones was an even narrower shave, the ball this time dropping on the top of the net. The closest of all, however, came during a hot bombardment of "H" Co.'s goal, when Whitney stopped on the post a neatly-placed shot by Gregory. So far

there was not much to choose between the teams, the only disparity existing, perhaps, in the case of the forwards, "A" Co.'s being a trifle better in the open. This led to a frequency in attack that tested the abilities of "H" Co.'s defences, who responded effectively time and again. Whitney punted out a second good shot from Jones, and Pugh, taking up the ball from Smart, had a sprint along the wing, which, although resulting in a bye only, had the advantage of clearing his side's territory for a space. "A" Co. still pursued their aggressive tactics, and Whitney conceded a corner in negotiating a cross shot from Hunt. This proved unproductive, and getting away from the start "H" Co.'s forwards gave "A" a taste of their own medicine. The tussle for a goal was exciting, but the net was never found, and half-time came without either side scoring.

Play had so far been with "A" Co., and they were as aggressive as ever when the game re-started. They gave away a free kick for a foul shy by Deegan, but although "H" Co. failed to improve this slight advantage they almost found the net a few moments afterwards. Encouraged to greater efforts by the shouts of the spectators, both teams went at it with a will, and the excitement ran to a high pitch when Jones, who was playing a splendid game, grazed the post with a cross shot. Pugh topped "A" Co.'s goal a few moments later, but this effort was capped almost immediately by Andrews, who scored the goal which settled the result of the match. He got the ball during a scrimmage in "H" Co.'s territory at goal, and had no difficulty in finding the net. Towards the finish the inferiority of the losing team's forwards became apparent, their passes being ill-judged and their shooting bad. "A" Co. did not suffer from the latter defect, and it was only through Whitney's careful play that the score was kept down. Whitney's charge was once again placed in danger by a foul against "H" Co. in their own ground, but Andrew's header went past. "H" Co. had not succeeded in equalising when the whistle sounded, although Williams almost managed to effect this object by a grand ball which Rhodes had to handle. The result, 1—0, is a fair representation of the game, and there can be no doubt that the better team won.

SUCCESSFUL HORSES AT THE RACES.

The following is a list of the successful horses at the recent Race Meeting:—

	WALERS.			
	Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.	
Ichiban	3	1	0	
Bay Ronald	2	1	0	
Ivy	2	0	1	
Golden Bell	2	0	1	
Punch	1	2	0	
My Lady	1	2	0	
Black Snake	1	1	1	
Vanity	1	1	1	
Marda	1	1	1	
Brumby	1	1	0	
Mayfly	1	1	1	
Weary Willy	1	1	0	
Versicolour	1	1	0	
Yellow Rose	1	1	0	
Sweet William	1	1	0	
Eros	1	0	2	
Shoji	1	0	0	
Annie	1	0	0	
Runaway Girl	1	0	0	
Lucky Jim	0	2	0	
Silver Spur	0	1	1	
Bell Helene	0	1	1	
Nightmare	0	1	0	
Belleva	0	1	0	
Vexation	0	1	0	
Glory	0	1	0	
Lady Mary	0	1	0	
Witzbold	0	0	3	
Lowly	0	0	3	
The Duchess	0	0	2	
Blazer	0	0	1	
Remnant	0	0	1	
Ocean Queen	0	0	1	
Geisha	0	0	1	
Bucephalus	0	0	1	
	24	24	24	

CHINA PONIES.

	Firsts.	Seconds.	Thirds.
Rare Rose	3	2	0
Rebel King	3	0	0
Set	2	0	1
Pandur	1	2	0
Ace of Hearts	1	1	1
Umpire	1	0	1
Moriturus	1	0	0
Disgust	0	2	2
Bourbon Rose	0	2	0
Sinbad	0	1	1
Selected Rose	0	1	0
Bulbul	0	1	1
Pansy	0	0	2
Robber King	0	0	2
Hyacinth	0	0	1
	12	12	12

[N.B.—The two hurdle races on the Off-day are not included in the above list.]

HONGKONG.

During the twenty-four hours ending at noon yesterday one case of plague (Asiatic other than Chinese) was reported in the Colony. The record for the year is two cases, one death.

The Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., has presented an extremely handsome silver cup to be competed for at the lawn-tennis championship meeting of the Hongkong Cricket Club, which commences in April next.

A Chinese woman committed suicide in her house at 154, Market Street, Hunghom, by drinking opium. This is a favourite form of self-destruction amongst natives, as there are no accompanying pains, the person falling into a deep sleep in which death supervenes. Jealousy is said to have been responsible for the act.

The ladies of the Committee of the Hongkong Benevolent Society desire to acknowledge with grateful thanks the sum of \$100, received from the "Snowdrop Minstrel and Variety Troupe" of H.M.S. *Goliath*, being a donation from the proceeds of their concert at the City Hall on 1st February, given in aid of local charities.

The German flagship *Fürst Bismarck* arrived in the Harbour on the 25th ult., at nine o'clock from the South, having left Singapore on the 19th instant. On board was Vice-Admiral Geissler, who has succeeded Vice-Admiral Bendemann in the command of the German squadron in these waters. On her arrival, the *Fürst Bismarck* was saluted by the various warships lying in the Harbour. The Vice-Admiral will formally visit His Excellency the Acting Governor, General Gascoigne, to-day.

After a stay of several months in Hongkong, Mr. Sixto Lopez left on 26th ult. for America by the s.s. *Athenian*. Despite the tirades which the States, and especially the Manila newspapers, have published against him, Mr. Lopez has gained nothing but the highest esteem among those who were privileged to be of his acquaintance during his stay in the Colony, both for his unassuming ways and his invariable gentlemanliness and courtesy. He has, of course, been prevented from returning to the Philippines by the declared intention of the U.S. authorities to arrest him unless he took the oath of allegiance. Mr. Lopez will be accompanied by Mr. T. T. Patterson, his private secretary, who also leaves many friends behind him in Hongkong.

We received on the 25th ult. from the Water Authority the following notice concerning the arrangements for water to supply the low-level district of the City:—It is anticipated that arrangements will be completed by Sunday, the 2nd inst., for supplying the inhabitants of the City near the Praya front, between the Central Market and the Sailors' Home, with water to be obtained from tanks erected at the following places:—(1). Opposite Eastern Street. (2). At Nam Pak Hong Pier. (3). To eastward of the Canton and Macao Steamboat Wharf. Should these arrangements be completed water will not be turned on, on and after the date mentioned, to the district bounded by Queen's Road on the south, by Jubilee Street on the east, and by Western Street on the west. If the arrangements be not completed, water will be turned on as usual.

The return of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum last week shows that 133 non-Chinese and 60 Chinese visited the former institution, 50 non-Chinese and 2,666 Chinese the latter.

The *Gazette* announces that in consequence of the prevalence of small-pox in the Colony, free vaccination will be performed at the Government Civil, Tung Wah, Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals.

His Excellency Conselheiro J. M. de Souza Horta e Costa, Governor of Macao, paid visita to Hongkong on the 24th ult. and was received by Sr. A. G. Romano, Portuguese Consul-General. His Excellency returned to Macao in the afternoon by the *Heungshan*.

Vice-Admiral Geissler, who arrived in Hongkong on the 25th ult. on board the German flagship *Fürst Bismarck*, visited Headquarters House on the 26th ult., and paid his respects to His Excellency the Acting Governor, Major-General Sir William J. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G. The Admiral going to Canton on the 1st inst., returning to Hongkong on the 4th inst., and will leave for the North on the 7th inst.

A new session of the Hongkong College of Medicine for Chinese commences next Monday. Courses of lectures have been arranged as follows:—Medical Jurisprudence, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai; Public Health, Dr. Francis W. Clark; Chemistry, Mr. F. Browne; Anatomy, Dr. MacLean Gibson; Practice of Medicine, Dr. R. Gibson; Pathology, Dr. F. J. A. Beringer; Physiology, Dr. W. W. Pearse; Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Infants, Dr. P. Krieg; Surgery, Dr. A. Rennie; Tropical Diseases, Dr. J. C. Thompson.

The report of the Directors of the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund for the year 1901 is published in the *Gazette*. From this it appears that the amount to the credit of the Fund on the 31st December last was \$109,266.89, including \$5,277.73 for interest paid by Government. The average monthly contributions amount now to about \$1,500. On the 31st December the number of contributors on the books was 382 (as against 318 on the same day in 1900), of whom 182 were bachelors, 190 married men, and 10 widowers. During the year 86 officers joined the Fund, 8 left, and 6 died. The total number of children on the books was 229, and there were on the list 17 pensioners, whose pensions aggregate \$1,754.86 per annum.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1901-2	1900-01
Shanghai	—	—
Amoy and Formosa.....	15,232,377	16,424,161
Foochow	—	—
	15,232,377	16,424,161

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1901-2	1900-1
	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai...	—	—
Amoy and Formosa.....	396,839	578,504
Foochow	—	—
Canton	—	—
	396,839	578,504

SILK.

CANTON, 15th February.—Business has been suspended during the China New Year holidays, and there is nothing of special interest to report. The market has scarcely yet re-opened, but there is every probability that when business is resumed even higher rates will be asked than before the holidays. A purchase of 40 bales Yee Woo Cheong 18/22 has been made at \$730. Waste.—Closed very firm with small sales in Steam Waste at \$108 for Extra Selected and \$92 for Extra-Extra. The stock in all classes is unusually small, and it is probable that supplies will run short during the later part of the season. All quotations subjoined are more or less nominal. Since the holidays, Extra Selected unopened has been done at \$102, and Gum Waste No. 1 at \$86.

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 28th February.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 28th February.—There is a good market, and the prices are going upward. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.45 to \$8.50	pel.
do. " 2, White.....	7.60 to 7.65	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	6.10 to 6.15	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.90 to 5.95	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.35 to 8.40	"
do. " 1, White.....	7.45 to 7.50	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ...	5.95 to 6.00	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.80 to 5.85	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	13.35 to 13.40	"
Shekloong "	10.35 to 10.40	"

RICE.

HONGKONG, 28th February.—The prices are advancing, some demands having come forward. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.75 to 2.80
" Round, Good quality	3.80 to 3.85
" Long	4.05 to 4.10
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	2.95 to 3.00
" Garden, " No. 1	3.30 to 3.35
" White.....	3.85 to 3.90
" Fine Cargo	4.01 to 4.15

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Stentor* sailed on 4th February For London:—571 boxes congru tea=11,991 lbs. at Canton, 136 cases Chinaware, 11 cases blackwoodware, 3 cases joss sticks, 10 cases bambooware, 14 cases P. L. fans, 40 cases bristles, 5 cases gum copal, 10 cases pitch, 19 cases cigars, 3 cases Manila hats, 750 cases ginger, 500 casks ginger, 4 bags shell, 219 sacks gum copal, 150 bales canes, 110 bales feathers, 150 bales waste silk, 4398 bales hemp, 10 pkgs. sundries. For London opt Glasgow:—50 cases preserves, 400 casks ginger. For London opt. Manchester:—50 bales waste silk.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 28th February.—Malwa is steady. Old drug continues in request, quotations remain unchanged.

Bengal.—The first half of the fortnight under review was a blank week. Subsequently a small demand sprung up for New Patna and New Benares at \$905. A few chests of New Patna numbered 22,000 have been sold at \$907½. At the close Benares, on account of small stocks and an improved demand, is being held for \$907½.

Persian.—In superior drug is quoted at \$600.

STOCK.

Patna	3,392
Benares	377
Malwa	350
Persian	3,331½

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 28th February.—Owing to heavy arrivals, market is weak and dull. Stock, about 10,000 bales

Bombay,	21.00 to 21.50	piculs
Bengal (New), Rangoon, }	21.50 to 22.50	"
" and Dacca,	—	"
Shanghai and Japanese,	28.50 to 29.50	"
Tungchow and Ningpo,	28.50 to 29.50	"
Sale: 320 bales.		

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 28th February:—Country buyers have not all returned from the interior, and business has been only partially resumed, the small settlements particularised below showing a steady and strong market in sympathy with that of Shanghai, where a brisk demand is shortly anticipated on the re-opening of the Northern ports. Prices have been well maintained, and a further advance of half to one dollar per bale in special tickets of No. 20s. has to be noticed. With moderate receipts and larger off-takes stocks show a slight increase on late estimate, and clearances from first hands are the largest on record. Reports from the country are so far satisfactory where the yearly settlements of accounts have passed off without difficulty; but the prolonged drought is now beginning to create anxiety and may seriously affect the Spring trade.

Local Spinnings.—No business has transpired in the products of the Hongkong C. S. W. & Dyeing Mill.

Japanese Yarn.—Require no mention in the continued absence of sales.

Raw Cotton.—Indian staple, despite advances on the other side, continue to weaken under the weight of incessant heavy importations, and with the quieter feeling in the interior, holders are easier in their rates and more disposed to meet any demand. Sales reported are 425 bales at from \$21 to \$22½, leaving an unsold stock of nearly 9,500

bales, which under present circumstances may be called unwieldy. Japan exporters have been again in evidence and about 4,000 bales have been shipped off to Yokohama. China Cotton has declined from \$1 to \$1½ per picul in sympathy with Shanghai advices, and a small sale of about 100 bales Ningpo at \$28 is reported. Unsold stock about 500 (small) bales. Quotations are—Indian \$18 to \$23 and China \$27 to \$29.

Exchange on India has declined and closes today at Rs. \$136½ for T/T and Rs. 137 for Post, on Shanghai \$73½ and \$11½ per cent. premium on Yokohama.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 22nd instant, viz:—

Indian:—In good enquiry from the River Ports at slightly advancing prices; total sales after resumption of business amounting to 13,000 bales, comprising 180 bales No. 6s., 6,245 bales No. 10s., 475 bales No. 12s., 1,100 bales No. 16s. and 5,000 bales No. 20s. The unsold stock was estimated at 39,000 bales.

Japanese.—In good enquiry, some 3,500 bales having changed hands on the basis of Tls. 84 to 89 for No. 16s. and Tls. 85½ to 90 for No. 20s., prices showing a slight advance of half a Tael to one, and market closing strong.

Local:—In more request; sales aggregating 5,000 bales comprising 1,000 bales of No. 10s. at Tls. 78, 3,300 bales No. 14s. at from Tls. 82 to 83, and 700 bales No. 16s. at from Tls. 85 to 85½, market closing firm.)

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 28th February.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*: 150 bales No. 6 at \$79 to \$81.50, 50 bales No. 8 at \$87, 1,600 bales No. 10 at \$78 to \$93, 940 bales No. 12 at \$92 to \$96, 350 bales No. 16 at \$91.50 to \$104, 1,150 bales No. 20 at \$102 to \$114. *Gray Shirtings*: 300 pieces 8½ lbs. 3 Dogs at \$3.77½. *T-Cloths*: 300 pieces 8 lbs. C.C. at \$3.55.

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$78.00 to \$119.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.10 to 2.20
7 lbs.	2.25 to 2.50
8.4 lbs.	2.90 to 3.55
9 to 10 lbs.	3.70 to 4.65
White Shirtings—54 to 58 rd.	2.40 to 2.70
58 to 60 " ..	3.15 to 4.10
64 to 66 " ..	4.20 to 5.00
Fine	5.20 to 7.40
Book-folds	4.30 to 6.50
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.73 to 1.25
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.70 to 1.90
7lbs. (32 ") ..	2.00 to 2.30
6lbs. (32 ") ..	2.00 to 2.15
7lbs. (32 ") ..	2.80 to 3.30
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) ..	3.00 to 3.55
Drills, English—40yds., 13½ to 14 lbs.	4.00 to 6.75

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.	1.50 to 4.65
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BROCADES—Dyed

DAMASKS—

Chintzes—Assorted	0.18 to 0.15
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22 to 0.45
Velveteens—18 in.	0.21 to 0.28

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.25 to 2.50

WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.....	0.65 to 2.00
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25 to 3.00

Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.	6.50 to 8.10
Assorted.....	6.60 to 8.20
Camlets—Assorted.....	12.00 to 32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches }	12.00 to 16.00
Assorted	—
Orleans—Plain	8.00 to 9.00

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	4.00 to 8.50
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METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod	4.30 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.	4.35 to —
Swedish Bar	6.90 to —
Small Round Rod	4.75 to —
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.,	5.90 to —
Wire, 15/25,	8.50 to —
Old Wire Rope	2.50 to —
Pig Non.....	35.50 to 36.50
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop ..	8.40 to —
Australian	8.30 to —

METALS—		per picul
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz.	38.00	to
Vivian's 14/20 oz.	38.00	to
Elliot's 14/20 oz.	38.00	to
Composition Nails.....	61.00	to
Japan Copper, Slabs.....	39.00	to
Tin.....	68.50	to

		per box.
Tin-Plates	8.00	to
		per cwt. case
Steel 4 to 8	5.90	to

SUNDRIES—		per picul
Quicksilver	171.00	to
		per box.
Window Glass	6.50	to
		per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil.....	2.05	to

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 28th February.—A little more activity has been noticeable in our market during the past week, but the business transacted has been confined mostly to the smaller stocks, and there is still but little attention being paid to the more important lines.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have continued dull with a small sale at the reduced rate of \$597½, at which there are further sellers. Nationals are unchanged.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have sold and are wanted at \$355. China Traders are obtainable at \$56. Yangtszes have been booked at \$134½. Cantons are wanted at \$157½.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs continue on offer at \$397½. Chinas are obtainable at \$90.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have sold and are in further request at \$37. Indos have been placed and are still obtainable at \$140. China Manilas continue on offer at \$50 and a lower rate would probably be accepted. The new issue can be obtained at \$5. Douglases can be procured at \$43. China Mutual preference shares are wanted at £10. 1's 0d.; ordinaries are to be had at £5, and ordinary bonus shares at £7. 10s. (d. Star Ferries (old) have sold at \$24, and the new shares can be obtained at \$9.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have sold at \$143 down to \$140 and are obtainable at the lower rate. Luzons are to be had at \$35.

MINING.—Punjoms are obtainable at \$43. Charbonnages continue in request at \$525. Raubs can be placed at \$9.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have declined to \$265 ex the dividend and bonus of \$9 per share paid on the 25th instant, with sellers, and sales reported at \$260 to \$262½, and a small item at \$265. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have receded to \$96 with sellers. New Amoy Docks are still wanted at \$30.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have sold at \$179 and \$18½, and there are further sellers at the higher rate. Kowloon Lands are offering at \$31, and West Points at \$60. Humphreys Estates have sold in fair quantities at \$12½, \$12½ and \$12.65 and a demand continues. Hongkong Hotels have been booked at \$134. Oriente Hotels are offering at the reduced rate of \$50.

COTTON MILLS.—The only change we have to report is in Hongkong Cottons, which have been booked at \$144.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have been placed at \$21½, and are now in request at \$21½. Electrics are quiet at \$13½ (old) and \$6½ (new). Ropes are offering at \$160. Ices and Tramways continue in demand at \$212½ and \$330 respectively. Fenwicks are quiet at \$45, and Bakeries at the same figure. United Asbestos (ordinary) are obtainable at \$10, and the Founders shares are wanted at \$125. China Providents have sold at \$9.30 and more shares are obtainable.

MEMOS.—China Borneo Co., Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting to-morrow, 1st March. Geo. Fenwick & Co., Ltd., ordinary general meeting on the 3rd March. Oriente Hotel Co., Ltd., Manila, ordinary half-yearly meeting on the 3rd March. Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., ordinary general meeting on the 4th March. China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting on the 6th March. Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting on the 6th March.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	(\$597½), sellers
		(L'don, £63 ex d.
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	£1.
Do. deferred	£1	nominal.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$27½.
B. Shares	£8	\$27½.
Foun. Shares.....	£1	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	£1	\$1, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$21, buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$30, sellers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$20, nominal.
China Prov. L. & M....	\$10	\$9.30, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$140, sellers
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited....	\$500	\$500, nominal.
Philippine Tobacco Co.	\$50	\$50, sellers
Invest. Co., Ltd. }		
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 45.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 30.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 150.
Hongkong	\$100	\$144, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$12, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	\$25	\$45.
Green Island Cement....	\$10	\$21½, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$45.
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$5	\$61.
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$330, buyers
Hk. Steam Water	\$5	\$8.
boat Co., Ltd.		
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$131, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$212½, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G....	\$50	\$96, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$160, sales & sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$265, ex div., sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$157½, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$90, sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$56, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$397½, sellers
North China	\$25	Tls. 190, buyers
Straits	\$20	nominal.
Union	\$50	\$355, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$134½, sales
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$180, sellers
Humphreys Estate....	\$10	\$12.65.
Kowloon Land & B....	\$30	\$31, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$60, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$35, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$45, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$525, buyers
Jelebu	\$5	\$4, sellers
Queen's Mines, Ltd....	25c.	4 cents.
Olivers Mines, A....	\$5	nominal.
Do. B....	\$4½	nominal.
Punjom	\$10	\$44, sellers
Do. Preference....	\$1	\$11, sellers
Raubs	18	\$9, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$30, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$50, sellers
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$9, sellers
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$50, sellers
China Mutual Prof.	\$10	\$10, 1's buyers
Do. Ordinary	£7.10	£7. 10s. sellers
Do. Bonus	£5	£5, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$43, sellers
H. Canton and M....	\$15	\$37, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$140, sellers
Shel. Transport and Trading Co.	£1	£2.
Star Ferry	\$10	\$24, buyers
		\$9, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co....	\$5	\$1.
United Asbestos	\$4	\$10, sellers
Do	\$10	\$12½, buyers
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$20, sellers
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$10, sales
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$15, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 28th February.—There has been a better demand for tonnage during the past two weeks, and more charters have been effected, but rates remain about the same as last reported. From Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents, and more

steamers are wanted; to one port north coast Java, 24 cents per picul; to one port Philippines, 24 cents per picul. From Moji to Hongkong, \$1.65; to Singapore, \$2.25 per ton. The following are the settlements:—

Lucia—British barque, 658 tons, Rajang to Hongkong, \$8,000 in full.

Elsa—German steamer, 1,702 tons, Hongay to Swatow, \$2 per ton.

Savio—German steamer, 1,622 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.60 per ton.

Madeleine Rickmers—German steamer, 1,020 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 9 cents per picul.

Hermann Menzell—German steamer, 1,004 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 10 cents per picul.

Doris—Norwegian steamer, 965 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 cents per picul.

Taifu—German steamer, 1,065 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12 cents per picul.

Nanyang—German steamer, 1,060 tons, Saigon to Philippines, 24 cents per picul.

Peiyang—German steamer, 1,036 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 26 cents per picul.

Tschong—German steamer, 939 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 26 cents per picul.

Paz—Belgian steamer, 1,092 tons, Saigon to one port north coast Java, 24 cents per picul.

A Menzell steamer, Saigon to one port north coast Java, 24 cents per picul.

Daphne—German steamer, 1,415 tons, Saigon to one port north coast Java (32,000 piculs), 24 cents per picul.

Marie Jensen—German steamer, 1,771 tons, Saigon to two ports north coast Java (35,000 piculs), 24 cents per picul.

China—German steamer, 1,271 tons, Java to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.

Elg—Norwegian steamer, 708 tons, two ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 25 cents per picul.

Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, Saigon to Iloilo, 24 cents per picul.

Tritos—German steamer, 1,033 tons, Nowchow or Tunghoi to Singapore (salt), 26 cents per picul.

Brand—Norwegian steamer, 1,519 tons, monthly, 6 months, at \$7,800 per month (re-charter).

Elsa—German steamer, 1,702 tons, monthly, 6 months, private terms.

Heim—Norwegian steamer, 763 tons, monthly, about 10 months, private terms.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 28th January.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/9½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/10
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/10 1/4
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/10 1/4
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10 1/4
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/10 1/4
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.30½
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.34½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	1.87½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	44½
Credits, 60 days' sight	45½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	136½
Bank, on demand	137
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	136½
Bank, on demand	137
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	73½
Private, 30 days' sight	73
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	11
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	2
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	111½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	1½
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	1½
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	60½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	10.87
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	56.50
BAR SILVER per oz.	25½

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—Sanuki Maru (str.), Tamba Maru (str.).

FOR LONDON.—Chusan (str.), Tamba Maru (str.), Glengarry (str.), Ajax (str.), Dardanus (str.), Ulysses (str.), Antenor (str.), Bombay (str.), Diomed (str.), Machaon (str.), Sanuki Maru (str.).

FOR LIVERPOOL.—Tydeus (str.), Prometheus (str.).

FOR MARSEILLES.—Sydney (str.), Sanuki Maru (str.), Konigsberg (str.), Tamba Maru (str.), Annam

FOR BREMEN.—*Sachsen* (str.).
 FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Konigsberg* (str.),
Annam (str.), *Sithonia* (str.), *Bamberg* (str.),
Segovia (str.), *Armenia* (str.).
 FOR GENOA.—*Armenia* (str.).
 FOR TRIESTE.—*Trieste* (str.).
 FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—*Tacoma* (str.), *Iyo Maru*
 (str.), *Ridjun Maru* (str.).
 FOR VANCOUVER.—*Empress of Japan* (str.),
Tartar (str.).
 FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—*Arab* (str.).
 FOR NEW YORK.—*Lowther Castle* (str.).
 FOR PORTLAND (Or.).—*Indravelli* (str.).
 FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—*Tsinan* (str.).
 FOR SINGAPORE AND BOMBAY.—*Tientsin* (str.).
 FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—
Milke Maru (str.), *Kagoshima Maru* (str.).
 FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.—
Lightning (str.).
 FOR SINGAPORE, SOURABAYA, AND SAMARANG.—
Chelydra (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

February—

23, Kwongsang, British str., from Chinkiang.
 24, Apenrade, German str., from Haiphong.
 24, Aragonia, German str., from New York.
 24, Calchas, British str., from Liverpool.
 24, Erica, German str., from Moji.
 24, Hongmoh, British str., from Singapore.
 24, Oceana, German str., from Yap.
 24, Sullberg, German str., from Haiphong.
 24, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
 24, Tientsin, British str., from Bombay.
 24, Whampoa, British str., from Shanghai.
 24, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
 25, Furst Bismarck, Ger. flagship, from S'pore.
 25, Heim, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
 25, Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 25, Kaga Maru, Japanese str., from Australia.
 25, Kumsang, British str., from Calcutta.
 25, Ness, British str., from Moji.
 25, Peiyang, German str., from Saigon.
 25, Wingsang, British str., from Swatow.
 26, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 26, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Swatow.
 26, Fausang, British str., from Canton.
 26, Fooksang, British str., from Chinkiang.
 26, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
 26, Germania, German str., from Bangkok.
 26, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'noizu.
 26, Kate, Austrian str., from Moji.
 26, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 26, Milke Maru, Japanese str., from Japan.
 26, Phra C. Klao, German str., from Bangkok.
 26, Slepner, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 26, Tacoma, American str., from Tacoma.
 26, Taishun, Chinese str., from Canton.
 27, Awa Maru, Japanese str., from Antwerp.
 27, Braemar, British str., from Moji.
 27, Cheangchew, British str., from Straits.
 27, Foochow, British str., from Sourabaya.
 27, Hongwan I, British str., from Straits.
 27, Telemachus, British str., from Saigon.
 27, Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 27, Chihli, British str., from Chinkiang.
 27, Progress, German str., from Tourane.
 27, S. Rickmers, Brit. str., from Palembang.
 27, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
 28, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 28, Chusan, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Dr. H. J. Kiaer, Norw. str., from Sarawak.
 28, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 28, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 28, Hansa, German str., from Saigon.
 28, Kwongsang, British str., from Canton.
 28, Machew, German str., from Bangkok.
 28, Oriental, British str., from London.

February—

DEPARTURES.

24, Canton, British str., for Canton.
 24, Indrapura, British str., for Portland, Or.
 24, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
 24, Pigmy, British gunboat, for Home.
 24, Salazie, French str., for Europe.
 24, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 25, Anping, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Anping Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 25, Aragonia, German str., for Shanghai.
 25, Calchas, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Flandria, German str., for Shanghai.
 25, Hongmoh, British str., for Amoy.
 25, Kohsichang, German str., for Singapore.
 25, Kwongsang, British str., for Canton.
 25, Lucia, British barque, for Rajang.
 25, Mara Kolb, German str., for Moji.
 25, Rambler, British gunboat, for Canton.

25, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 25, Whampoa, British str., for Canton.
 26, Arratoon Apear, Brit. str., for Calcutta.
 26, Ariel, Norwegian str., for Tientsin.
 26, Athenian, British str., for Vancouver.
 26, Ceylon, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
 26, C. F. Laeisz, German str., for Hamburg.
 26, Decima, German str., for Swatow.
 26, Fooksang, British str., for Canton.
 26, Fukui Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 26, Hinsang, British str., for Hongay.
 26, Nanchang, British str., for Tientsin.
 26, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
 26, Sullberg, German str., for Haiphong.
 26, Thea, German str., for Haiphong.
 26, Tientsin, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 27, Fausang, British str., for Tientsin.
 27, Guthrie, British str., for Australia.
 27, Kaga Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 27, Kasuga Maru, Jap. str., for Australia.
 27, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 27, Apenrade, German str., for Hoihow.
 28, Awa Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 27, Skarpsno, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 28, Cheangchew, British str., for Amoy.
 28, Dunslaw, British barque, for Royal Roads.
 28, Foochow, British str., for Kobe.
 28, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 28, Hongkong, French str., for Hoihow.
 28, Kumano Maru, Japanese str., for Nagasaki.
 28, Kwongsang, British str., for Foochow.
 28, Szechuen, British str., for Tientsin.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Mr. E. O. Brownlow.
 Per *Lightning*, from Singapore, Messrs. F. W. Eddy, M. George, and Raymond.
 Per *Taiyuan*, from Australia, Mrs. Smith and family, Mr. Kreitmayer and daughter, Miss Gregson, Miss Slight, Messrs. Robinson and Leaver.
 Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mrs. Swaine, Mrs. Kennedy, Mrs. Dall, Mrs. and Miss Wood, Mrs. Mangalland, Mrs. Cochen, Mrs. Nichols, Messrs. Davies, G. W. Noehmagle, Twentymen, Fred. Pollock, C. D. Wood, A. J. Erickson, W. L. Casy and J. H. Wilkon.
 Per *Ceylon*, from London, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Drayson, Capt. Campbell, 2nd Lieut. H. S. Gaskell, Messrs. D. Pemberton, S. Powell, and J. A. Rogers; for Shanghai, Mrs. Rowbottom and child; from Malta, Lieut. Q. M. and Mrs. Jones and Sergt. J. D. Guest.
 Per *Salazie*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Keswick and Mr. Amasaki; from Nagasaki, Mr. W. Ingram; from Shanghai, Mrs. Holland, Mr. and Mrs. Denis and two children, Messrs. S. Haworth, K. Mounsey, Valentin, Franz Kuhne, A. R. Moss, E. Nagai, Rowbottom and Rev. Marion; for Saigon, from Kobe, Mr. A. Rion; from Nagasaki, Mr. Akita; for Singapore, from Shanghai, Mr. Stinn; for Colombo, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Lee; for Port Said, from Kobe, Mr. D. Kazakevitch; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Lagrange, Messrs. A. Cloarea, A. Mertens and Poucel; from Kobe, Mr. Chaix; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Diamante, Mr. and Mrs. Pontus, Messrs. Dabro, Saint Girous, Jean, Dellioule Victor Theophile, Duysburg, Joseph, Briol, Hurd, Charles, Bouzon, Roch, D. Branche, H. Jean, Rev. Mausuet, Sergt. Roques, and Sergt. Major Teige.
 Per *Sungkiang*, from Manila, Capt. Crawford.
 Per *Whampoa*, from Shanghai, Messrs. Krell and Lowe.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, from Manila, Mrs. C. P. Territt, Miss J. C. Territt, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Torkington, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Cogill, Mr. and Mrs. Caston, Major Johnson, Dr. A. S. Knudsen, Messrs. D. McBirney, John Slableford, Adelina Larrma, Rose Aguinaldo, Annie Tosma, Della Rose, F. Altro, A. Russell, M. Haywood, W. G. Simpson, B. W. Wilson, H. Blum, Henry Cromlie, J. W. Pattison, Sam. M. Officer and B. J. Barlow.

Per *Wingsang*, from Swatow, Mrs. Russel and Private Blayne, R. W. F.

Per *Kumano Maru*, from Australia, &c., for Hongkong, Miss and Mrs. Richardson and child, Colonel and Mrs. Cottel, Misses Cottel, Mr. and Mrs. Andreas, Rev. and Mrs. H. G. Thorn-

ton, Misses Murray, N. D. Barton, Ismay and Johns, Messrs. A. C. Hillier, R. Turton, G. Fellows, E. A. Crawnashield, F. G. Thomas, J. Ismay, Hutt, C. K. Scott, Drage, A. S. Mihara, T. Kawaguchi, W. Kendall, Blake, Davis, Thornton, Mur, Martine and Glegor; for Yokohama, Mrs. W. F. Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. S. Levy, Mr. and Mrs. Withy, Misses Withy, Mrs. Jephson, Hon. A. C. Hill, Misses Hill, Misses B. Kennedy, Fisher, Mack (2), and M. Burns, Messrs. J. K. Bindloss, A. J. Rankin, W. B. Ellies, G. H. Holley, R. and S. Lucas Tooth, A. Fail, F. Mack, M. Sakikawa, Fisher, F. Thompson, Naguchi and A. Hoskins.

Per *Kasuga Maru*, from Japan, for Hongkong, Mrs. Geo. L. Byram and child, Mr. and Mrs. McGlew, Messrs. Matt Smith and K. Shimada; for Manila, Mrs. Eltinge, Mrs. Cole, Mrs. Anita Lopis, Mrs. Y. Fukuchi, Major Robertson, Messrs. V. Gorostige, A. Peres and M. Rodriguez; for Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Foy and Mr. Y. Murakami.

Per *Kumsang*, from Calcutta, &c., Rev. J. H. and Mrs. Gill, Messrs. McCarthy, Chandler, Lyons, Collins, Steven, Saukimat, Bostorff, Parker, Reche and Bacon.

Per *Formosa*, from Tamsui, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Sutherland and Rev. Dourfus.

Per *Loongmoon*, from Shanghai, Messrs. Gutemez, Christians and Eibrecht.

DEPARTED.

Per *Bingo Maru*, from Hongkong, for London, Mrs. and Miss D'Alamada e C. Remedios, Miss Jones, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Bull, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Shaw, Messrs. K. Toyama, N. Muto, Y. Kitamura, J. Freeman, E. Newall, McDonaldson, E. Nycolds, Briceland, H. S. Contudine, J. Winnerah, C. E. Craig, J. H. F. Peter, E. S. Campbell, H. R. Thistlethwaite and D'Almada e C. Remedios.

Per *Salazie*, from Hongkong, for Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Ismail and four children, Messrs. A. Legrand, H. A. Courtney, and C. Hugand; for Singapore, Messrs. H. Nakaji, B. Nemethy, H. Herbert, Hoisey, F. Pollock, A. Villate and A. C. Abbs; for Marseilles, Messrs. G. M. Nicolas and Chrisostomo.

Per *Yuensang*, for Amoy, Mr. J. F. Miller; for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. P. O. Murphy.

Per *Athenian*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mrs. Bevis, Mrs. H. G. Riches, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Brownlow and child, Drs. P. D. Dipper and French, Asst.-Surg. Haines, Sergts. Taylor and Hulcoop, Gunner Rendell, Misses Peaty and Har. er, Messrs. L. E. Waller, von Wiltzlsben, C. J. Ashley, F. A. Cumming, A. Fipper, D. Talbot Crosbie, J. R. Twentyman, B. Roth, P. Crighton, S. Keenen, J. Moosa, H. H. Read, L. Gregor and Chr. Rafen; for Nagasaki, Mr. D. Ditich; for Kobe, Mr. A. Ireland; for Yokohama, Dr. and Mrs. Smith and three children and Miss Smith, Misses Peters, Robson and Sleight (3) and Mr. Jno. D. Peters; for Vancouver, Messrs. W. D. Hart and A. F. Macnee; for New York, Rev. T. and Mrs. Chalk; for Portland, Mr. G. W. Taylor; for San Francisco, Rev. J. H. and Mrs. Gill, Mr. and Mrs. C. Skidmore, Mr. and Mrs. James J. Thompson and Mr. C. T. Lyon; for Seattle, Mr. T. T. Patterson and Senor Sixto Lopez; for London, Rev. C. H. Browne, Sir James Graham, Messrs. E. Burrows, J. H. Burrows, Wilfrid Noel Tangye, Chas. Partington and O. Sanders.

Per *Rubi*, for Manila, Mrs. R. Treadwell, Mrs. W. E. McPherson, Mrs. O. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Abbeville, Miss F. Manzon, Capt. H. Steere, Messrs. John N. Blair, Ramond Carnero, W. A. Oram, Darnell, W. D. Pemberton and H. W. Cunningham.

Per *Kasuga Maru*, for Australia, Mrs. G. C. Byran and child, Mrs. Ettinge, Mrs. Cole, Mrs. A. Lopes, Mr. and Mrs. F. Foy, Mrs. Fukuchi, Mrs. T. Miyada, Mrs. and Miss Tanaka, Mrs. Tanaka, Mr. and Mrs. C. Osawa, Miss T. Yamada, Major Robertson, Messrs. Geo. Seaver, G. Sterling, A. Peran, M. Rodrigo, J. B. Luciano, Victor Gorostigo, T. Skinner, V. Conception, R. B. Johnson, H. Norgrove, S. Horiguchi, T. Shibasaki, T. Nakasato, H. Yamada, Z. Yoneta, J. Harada, T. Nagai, O. Watanabe, M. Ito, T. Hyuga and Murakami.

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